Master’s Program Committee

Monthly Meeting: October 22, 2018

12:15 to 1:45, Room 5E11

Attended: Sarah Dababnah (HB, Foundation; Health; Children & Families, International); Michelle Tuten (Behavioral Health); Ilana Hipshman (Advanced Student Representative); Michael Reisch (CASP); Paul Sacco (Aging); Joan Pittman (Shady Grove); Adam Schneider (DAO and Macro); Amanda Lehning (Policy; Macro); Ed Pecukonis (Clinical) Megan (ex officio); Dawn Shafer (ex officio); Theda Rose (Research); Jayshree Jani (UMBC).

Agenda

1. Updates
   1. Working Groups Reports
      1. Rigor/grade scale: Met, reviewed survey results, and went through to see what were some systemic themes (see attached notes). Issues to add:
         1. Is rigor amount of work or standards that we set for students. And what do we mean by standards.
         2. Need to look at admissions and whether/to what extent students are prepared for graduate work, which is a challenge for both faculty and students.
         3. Important dialogue around expectations for time
         4. What is the expectation for feedback in order to help students improve (this might be a question for the evaluation)
         5. Additional for on-line classes; are folks grand-parented in.
         6. Might be helpful to look at what are the short-term and long-term
         7. How would we enforce consistency? What are the strategies to do this in a way that preserves diversity? Megan has a document that outlines the role of course coordinator.
         8. In terms of overview, course coordination doesn’t exist for all courses. We can perhaps run these through the curricular committees.
         9. Re: A+: check with Fred (Corey); check with Danielle (Dawn)
      2. Broad Curriculum overview: resend to Paul from aging. We will report out in November and see how far we’ve gotten with the committees.
   2. Pilot course for diversity and anti-oppression content
      1. Two sessions have been held thus far. Report of feedback on 2nd session (see attachment). The focus was race and gender film that they used was “Race the Power of the Illusion”. Overall feedback is the film was not great use of class time and needed more conversation; would like more time. The next intensive is Wednesday. Sarah has been trying to mirror in the HBSE section in a more condensed way; Gregory Brightbill talked about social construction of gender and sexual orientation. Very positive feedback but would be better to spread it out more and talk more which was hard due to the need to cover content. Also hard to pitch to students who may be approaching this from different levels.
      2. A lot has come out; largely tried to take out duplicative material (covered also in groups and families; organizations (covered in 631); merged families and communities. Trimming some of this content is a problem for Macro classes, which means that the students will not come in with foundational content. This could inform what we do moving forward. Raises the additional possibility of mixing the two models so that we don’t have to give as much up and map what is being taught where.
      3. Logistically looks like it might be easier to scale the HBSE format up, with perhaps one or two of the full days.
      4. How will we do this with full/part time? Might start up with full timers and then move up to more.
      5. Fernando will now be joining Mary in evaluating the pilot.
      6. Next time can we have feedback from the field seminar? We can ask Mary and Fernando to look at this.
      7. Poverty simulation: mixed responses to this; may not be best use of resources including student time
      8. Need to have a sense that this is put together coherently in a way that makes sense and feels well thought out and makes sense and we need to think about that. We need to think about how we present this to students?
   3. New courses approved:
      1. 789 advanced research; 699 were given feedback 1 credit suicide IPE; 1 credit substance abuse IPE; 3 credit evidence based practices in early childhood mental health; SWCL Integrated behavioral health practice course; 1 credit dialectical behavioral health at Shady Grove.
      2. These are a lot of new courses; Associate Dean will bring report at the beginning of next year to the MPC to give the bird’s eye view in about October. Many of these are in clinical and so the clinical committee is reviewing this also in response to MPC questions. Also want to assess those being generated by grants.
      3. Dovetailing with a(ii) this would be good to look at in all committees.
2. Action Items
   1. Approval of minutes from 9/24/18 meeting: approved
   2. Can pilot course fulfill diversity requirement
      1. Worry that in the meanwhile difficulty meeting the diversity content. Can look to see what classes are using this and can be approved as diversity courses in the meanwhile if it is already has this content as this can be a hurdle in the meanwhile. Also can look into hybrid or virtual. Approved; Corey will let Danielle and Nakiya know
3. Discussion Items
   1. Inventory of videos used in courses (Clark)
   2. Recruiting to teach the diversity course: Handout with graphs
   3. Trainings for faculty in light of new diversity course: Knowing that we are going to decide something so identifying a core cohort of faculty who would train themselves, go through some of the experiences, and then do a teach-the-teacher model. We don’t know how many faculty we will need. This is something that the search committee is keeping in mind. We need to take what we’ve got and make an assessment immediately after the beginning of the year. Might make more sense to have dedicated liaisons rather than training all the liaisons.
   4. Course coverage Fall 2018
      1. Different courses have different coverage;
      2. To what extent are we thinking about this in hiring? There will be some discussion on FEC in terms of the extent to which we may be moving toward a two-tier system? If we are, how do we mitigate potentially negative consequences? For example by making sure there are tracks for promotion.
      3. This is obviously larger than just search but relates to PhD programs; what are the other demands on faculty (i.e. what is tenure base on?)? This is part of a larger trend in the school and the profession. Teaching ratings are good and have gone up.
4. Other Business?
   1. Put on MPC agenda- when we get rid of the diversity requirement. We might want to do it concurrently from here on in.

Next meeting, in room 5E11, from 12:15 to 1:45, November 26, 2018