FACULTY MEETING
May 15, 2019

MOTION

Motion: The Faculty Executive Committee moves to amend the Faculty Handbook (Part Two, II, F, 2) by including the SDM Committee as one of the College's governance committees.

Rationale: In 2012, the SDM Committee changed from a subcommittee of Curriculum Committee to an Advisory Board when the College recognized the SDM as an academic program. However, the SDM Program is fundamentally a hybrid of a faculty governance committee, specifically Curriculum Committee from which it evolved, and an academic program. Therefore, it requires recognition as both a faculty governance committee and as an interdisciplinary program with a program director performing the day-to-day administrative functions similar to those of a department chair. When the change was made to the faculty governance system, the SDM committee was not included as a governance committee. However, the work done by the committee remains a faculty governance responsibility. It is important and necessary to recognize this in the Faculty Handbook.

NEW LANGUAGE

SELF-DETERMINED MAJOR COMMITTEE—Appointed
Function: To act for the faculty in overseeing the Self-Determined Major (SDM) Program by setting the academic criteria and procedures required of self-determined majors. The Committee is charged with evaluating and approving proposals for self-determined majors according to the criteria. Additionally the Committee evaluates and approves changes to core requirements and final project proposals that serve as the culminating experience for each individual major. After a student's program has been approved and the student's major declared, the SDM Committee functions as the student's "department," with the Director of the SDM Program functioning as the student's "department chairperson." The SDM Director works in close contact with the Registrar to monitor the progress toward the degree of each self-determined major. The Committee is responsible for recommending SDM honors as outlined in the College Catalog.

Membership: The SDM Committee is composed of five members. The SDM Director is appointed by the Dean of Faculty/VPAA to serve as the administrator of the SDM Program. In addition to the Director, three faculty members will be appointed for staggered three-year terms, such that all four of the College's major divisions (Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Science and Pre-professional programs) are represented. A representative from the Office of Academic Advising will be appointed by the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Student Academic Affairs annually.