MLS Program Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2018
1:30- 3:30 p.m.

Ragsdale 218

Present at the meeting: Kaye Dotson, Al Jones, Barbara Marson, Fadekemi (Kemi) Oyewusi, Mónica Colón-Aguirre, Jami Jones, Elaine Yontz, Lou Sua (on the phone)

I. Welcome: Kaye called meeting to order at 1:36.

II. Program meeting news/information

a. Minutes approved. Al moved the motion to approve, Barbara seconded.
b. Final admission numbers are informed as: 67 students admitted in the fall semester, which brings the total students in the program to 259

c. New positions and search committees are needed pending Elaine’s retirement; John Harer and Jami Jones also announced retirements. New searches will be soon underway for three (3) tenure track positions (two (2) still pending final approval) and one (1) fixed term (also pending final approval)

III. Program Planning Overview: call for better ways to compile data. Kaye presented information compiled so far for Standard I: Systematic Planning. Next meeting presentation on Standard II: Curriculum by Barbara and Elaine.

- Elaine pointed out how requirements on the guides suggest topic sentences as “Not this…” should not interpreted as eliminating information, but as not stopping at that specific piece of information.
- Each program meeting will include a presentation on a standard by those responsible for it.

IV. AASL Progress Report

a. Jami informed the group that the report includes 8 assessments to introduce the program plus an analysis of the findings. These have been completed by Jami and Barbara, who are meeting after the Program Meeting with Holly Fales in order to discuss the process of uploading the report. The report is due in March, with the final decision to be received sometime during the summer.

- Weaknesses identified in the progress report focus mostly on networking, with LIBS 6991 indicated as a potential way to bridge the gaps.
- The new standards focus on inquiry and discovery in students, and on development of higher order thinking skills for school librarians.
- Courses which provided assignments used as assessments in the evaluation of the new standards included:
  - 6991
  - 6144
o 6142 – which needs a complete revision to accommodate the new standards
o 6035
o 6037
o 6031
o 6010 (only marginally used)

- Concern was raised that the rubrics for new assignments and assessments reflecting the new standards need to be updated on Taskstream
- Ideas were discussed of having students turn in assignments into an article to be submitted for publication or putting together a presentation or proposal for presentation at a professional conference

V. Curriculum Committee Report: Review of the curriculum revision update included keeping the LIBS 6031 (Management) course since dropping the requirement would have jeopardized the public library certification and having LIBS 6133 become a choice of 6133 OR 6135 OR 6137 for public library concentrations

a. 6133 has never been taught
b. Elaine will fix some typos in the curriculum revision update document and upload a clean version to the Blackboard site for the accreditation report under Systematic Planning and under Curriculum
c. Mónica as a member of the COE Curriculum Committee will oversee the pending course number changes
d. Lou mentioned the research course 6872 (formerly 6978) as no longer required. Elaine reminded the group that the course has been offered as an elective in recent years because students can still graduate under the curriculum requirements when they were accepted. The course in question was not required anymore in order to open space to require other courses: Digital Libraries and Information Literacy. The advising sheet still mentions the research course as required, the suggestion accepted by the group is to leave the advising sheets as they are until specific course numbers are approved for the courses in question. Digital libraries has not been offered in a while, will need to be taught soon, probably in the summer

VI. Course Offerings: Issues this year are making hiring adjuncts harder

VII. NCSLMA: We have a booth which includes two (2) memberships. Kaye will check if that is the case.

a. Elaine and Kemi will prepare a display on International School Libraries Month to be included in the booth
b. During NCSLMA the program will host a Dutch dinner at Jeffrey Adams (on the 1st floor) Thursday, October 4th at 7:00pm

VIII. Discussions and Reminders

a. Barbara informs study abroad not approved yet
b. Barbara has received feedback on the internships in Paris from Mallory and Wendy

c. Jami informs that Nicholas (Nick) Bambach has agreed to be the new ALA Student Chapter President

- Barbara brought up the idea of finding out which libraries are affected the hurricane and trying to do something for them. Ideas include:
  - Have the ALA student book drive to send it to affected libraries or organizations which help in the hurricane’s aftermath
  - Call for a book drive in the COE listserve or a call for the students listserveto identify if any of them work in libraries which were damaged and which materials are needed

Meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm.

Submitted by Mónica Colón-Aguirre