Academic Planning  
September 20, 2018

In attendance: Bob Pitts, Joey Van Arnem, Dan Greenberg, Terry Bowers, Amy Rogers, Mary Ann Blitt, Gretchen Mcclaine, Michelle McGrew, Lynn Ford, Brian McGee

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:00 by Bob Pitts.

2. Classic Learning Test (CLT) presented by Jimmie Foster
   - Office of admissions is considering accepting CLT as a new college entrance exam. The items are taken from mathematical content and literary works from Western thought. 2hr exam, administered online or in-person.
   - The exam is growing exam in popularity. It is the exam of choice within the home school movement and many conservative and religious private schools are deciding to use it. Home schoolers believe education should return to the strong foundations and that ACT and SAT does not produce the caliber of student they want to see.
   - Concern has been express because it does not have writing section; however writing section is optional on ACT/SAT and CofC does not require it. CofC is considering asking for previous graded assignment.
   - There has not been a lot of research of viability comparing it to ACT or SAT.
   - Most schools currently accepting it are religious institutions, but it is breaking more into the public sector such as CNU, Baylor, Chicago State, Mary Washington (considering it).
   - CofC feels it would open us to a broader range of students. With our liberal arts draw, it should not be a detractor for those that are not in religious private schools. Currently those students are unable to apply for Palmetto scholarship, but there is a meeting in Tallahassee to discuss possibility of their inclusion for the Bright Scholars Scholarship.
   - Questioned as to how do home school students do compared to others. Will reach out to IRA, but generally tend to have higher test scores, similar GPAs

3. PHD in Mathematics (Bob Mignone and Annalisa Calini)
   - They want a small, liberal arts core program and hope to increase undergrad research.
   - The central piece is the linear approach (faculty, candidate and undergrad) which has shown to be successful. It modeled after the program in Britmore College which produces good graduates.
   - There is a part-time option, which is fairly unique. It may be of interest to locals in the community.
   - They would like to create the model mathematician with Math and Computation and hope to send them out to companies within the community as there is a need.
   - In the external review of the MA in Math, they were questioned about the lack of a PHD.
   - There has been concern about an increased reliance on adjuncts. The department is very conscious of having quality adjunct faculty; however, the PHD courses would actually be taught by TAs. Current MA students that get half way through the program are trained and are allowed to teach.

4. Inclusion of roster faculty in School of Professional Studies and Honors College
• Last spring there was interest in hiring non-tenure (instructors, senior instructors, visiting) faculty.
• HC have interdisciplinary courses that have been difficult to staff and 1-2 faculty would provide stability. SPS has proposed programs where there is not a depth of faculty expertise, such as Legal Studies, and other concentrations where there is faculty that are in areas where there are high demand.
• Concerns expressed about having faculty only teaching in Honors, precluding connection with other faculty at CofC and thus different course content. However, faculty would have to be qualified to teach course content. There may be multiple solutions (sharing faculty, clear agreements on staffing, joint appointment 60/40 split).
• There is a need for oversight and quality control.

5. Systems Engineering Curriculum (Narayanan Kuthirummal)
• They have had 2-2 programs and 3-2 programs, but students were unable to complete on time and they were terminated in 2003. They are proposing two new programs – Electrical Engineering (traditional) and Systems Engineering (new interdisciplinary). They can easily be offered with current faculty and facilities.
• There is a local need and it is 7th most popular inquiry from students as major.
• Hired Dr. Roberts from U of San Diego as consultant.
• Benefits: may be able to attract more females students to the field since we have 64.4% females and no Systems Engineering program in SC.
• Industry wants students with good communication skills which our liberal arts education provides, and they do not propose to cut any Gen Ed requirements
• It was pointed out that there is a need for FYE. It could be ENGR 103 or in learning community.
• There was concern that it is credit heavy and does not allow for minors and it was suggested to consider how gen ed might be connected more to the program.
• Question: How can we make our program unique and draw good Engineering students?

6. There were no actionable items. Meeting adjourned at 4:45.