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UMM Innovation Meeting Notes

Rodney A. Briggs

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October 24, 1968

*Write
memo.*

Rodney Briggs, Steve Granger, and Ted Uehling

Jack Imholte

Innovation

Ted Uehling and I met on October 24 for the purpose of attempting to compile a list of various innovations which might be needed at UMM, and to attempt to arrange the list in some kind of priority ranking. The list comes from papers and memorandums written by the Provost over the course of the past few years. We also attempted to suggest what might be the most advantageous route to follow in obtaining reaction and discussion of possible proposals for innovation. We submit this list and the following remarks as background information for a discussion among the four of us as to how to proceed from here.

The list of innovations includes the following:

1. Curricular and Programmatic Innovation
 - a. A 20% reduction in the number of courses offered in our curriculum
 - b. The replacement of three-credit courses with five-credit courses and/or the collapsing of two or more courses into one five-credit course
 - c. Annual schedule: three quarters of equal length or two semesters
 - d. Establishment of two and one-half member disciplines with an additional one half of a position for flexibility.
2. Improvement in Instruction
 - a. Greater and more creative use of media
 - b. Different instructional approaches — *evaluation of our instructional program*
3. Student and Faculty Exchanges
 - a. Exchange of students and faculty with negro institutions
 - b. International student-faculty programs
4. Ungraded Freshman Year
5. Core Freshman and/or Sophomore Programs
6. Double Track Approach: Associate of Arts Degree
7. Reduction in Discipline Related Courses Required for Major and Replacement with Courses from Allied Fields
8. Greater use of Undergraduate Teaching Assistants
9. Special Program for Transfer Students
10. Graduate Offerings
11. Free University Courses

Taskforce

Planning

On down

Planning Com.

*Just to name
Synthesis
program*

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12. A Course in Predictive Thinking
13. Courses and Programs Which Include a Use of Community and Regional Resources¹ Can be a Service to the Nearby Geographic Area

Other than item number one, those that follow are not necessarily listed in order of priority. Also, we did feel that the best approach for introducing items under number one was through the Division Chairmen. We did not discuss thoroughly appropriate approaches to be utilized for the other items on the list.

lh

November 7, 1968

Rodney Briggs, Steve Granger and Ted Uehling

Jack Imholte

Innovation Mechanisms

We met on November 5, 1968 and decided that the innovations referred to in the previous October 24 memo should be considered by the following groups:

Division Chairmen: Curricular and Programmatic Innovation (Item 1 on previous memo); Courses and Programs Which Include Use of Community and Regional Resources and can be a Service to the Nearby Geographic Area (Item 13); Greater Use of Undergraduate Teaching Assistants (Item 8).

Task force: Student and Faculty Exchanges (Item 3).

UMM Planning Committee: Ungraded Freshman Year (Item 4); Core Freshman and/or Sophomore Programs (Item 5); Double Track Approach (Item 6); Graduate Offerings (Item 10).

Free University Courses (Item 11) can be handled in some different manner.

Special Program for Transfer Students (Item 9) is being formulated by Bob Vikander.

Improvement in Instruction (Item 2) can be handled through existing machinery, such as the Audio Visual Committee and the Divisions.

Reduction and Discipline Related Courses Required for Major and Replacement with Courses from Allied Fields (Item 7); and Course ~~and~~ Predictive Thinking (Item 12) were not categorized.