1. Approval of Minutes from 11/13/23

Steven asked about Starfish and the discussion with Athletics. Steven and Richard voiced concern with the effectiveness of Starfish as a method to flag students struggling. Katie mentioned the usefulness of a paper trail, but acknowledged the lack of initiative students took when flagged.

Motion- Steven
Second- Richard

Vote to approve: Approved Unanimously

2. Discussion of College Strategies Teaching Points

Katie- Objectives and Student Outcomes

Course designed to be online and in person, a full semester course worth two credits. Referring to list of topics designed to address needs of students during and following college life. Meetings are done for the semester but will recommence in January. Richard asked if the course would be ready for summer 2024, Katie said that it would not as it is generally not offered in the summer because scholarships do not cover summer courses. Logan asked if offering it during the summer could be entertained so that students could be ready before their first semester of academic coursework. Richard agreed and added that it could be asked for more specifically in the committee. Steven asked about certain points regarding mental health and addressing student concerns from his students’ experiences. Katie addressed where in the list this is addressed in the wellness section, expounding on the specific time given to the subject. Matt asked about the tightness of the schedule, noting that the class days seemed packed and that it would be difficult miss a class given a storm, holiday, etc. Katie mentioned that the course would have modules online that would aid in covering the material, giving time for the students to complete the work. Steven and Richard ask about the need for the course to shift from one credit to two credits, and the worry of transfer and credit creep. Wyatt mentioned the possibility that this course will transferable in terms of a digital literacy requirement throughout the NDUS, though Katie acknowledged the digital literacy component is just a segment of the course. The topic of dual credit for high schoolers arose, seeing if this could be offered in the spring for prospective high school students. The topic of offering different sections for different fields was mentioned by Katie, also options in the course internally.

3. Budget Updates, Giving Day?

We have got about 6,000 for the department for Giving Day. Dr. Atallah mentioned that our
budget will be tight the next couple of years. Discussing the possibilities of addressing the safety issues in the art department to use the funds effectively, referencing the department program update. Using the allotted music funds to build shelves and obtain instruments. Meeting will occur between Kirby and Logan to discuss this. Kirby mentioned professional development and methods for understanding AI. Matt and Katie mentioned the concern that the AI material could be quickly outdated. Kirby mentioned that a methodology used by Atallah using assigned weekly readings could be useful.

4. End of semester questions?
Ryan asked if the dates for the last week of classes and finals week were different than the rest of the semester. Kirby and others said that it was and said that the dates and times will change. Richard asked if it was posted online, Kirby said he did not think so. Kirby will follow up with Dr. Atallah to get these dates online, Katie will put something together and ask to get it online. Ryan asked if evening courses had separate times, Katie answered that those courses have their final exam at the same time they would normally meet. Ryan asked about student evaluations online and Katie mentioned that they are online and were sent out in an email. Katie mentioned methods of getting confirmation that students completed their evaluation for extra credit. Richard mentioned that finals must be held during the finals time and no earlier unless approval has been granted by Dr. Atallah with extenuating circumstances. Richard mentioned that you must meet during this time, but the final does not have to be a traditional written final. Kirby mentioned accommodations and addressing them to students to make sure those that need more time on finals receive it. Katie mentioned that course shells have been made for Spring 2024 and mentioned that it is easy to copy the coursework from Fall 2023 and that she would show us how to do that. Katie said grades must be posted by December 18th. Wyatt asked about the meeting time for the end of semester meeting with Dr. Atallah. Kirby mentioned that he can meet with us when we put in our grades to make sure everything runs smoothly.

5. Committee Updates
Wyatt: Curriculum – Everything got approved for the course changing description in terms of Music 100 and the removal of courses that are no longer relevant. Discussion of Fine Arts/Humanities Course Requirements. Proposal in the committee to GERTA to change certain fine arts requirements to humanities requirements.

Matt: Senate – Senate approved letter in support of DSC Faculty and requested information regarding the decision-making progress. We might need a CCF Rep next year and we will need someone to speak at graduation. Let’s try to figure out the mechanism to get folks involved at the state academic council Steven is involved in.

Steven: English Academic Discipline Meeting – Looking at different methods of determining student readiness to enter English 110. The proposed GPA to for a student to take the course was 2.4 but the Vice Presidents thought the GPA being proposed was too low. 3.2 was a GPA
proposed, but Steven noted that this was higher than necessary. 2.6 has now been proposed. Katie asked how advisors would know if a student met this requirement, Steven did not know. Katie mentioned the inability for advisors to override the system to allow a student to take English 110 despite not making the “cut.” Steven mentioned that the old and new policy both allow a student to appeal this to be placed in an appropriate English course.

Ryan: SJEDI has not met yet. Diversity Club met for the first time. The Club will really get started in the Spring, but the attendance was strong at 14 members for the first meeting.