

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards

February 9th, 2018

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Gerberding 142

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Review of the minutes from January 26th, 2018
 3. Chair's report
 4. SCAP report
 5. Guest: Patricia Kramer (Interdisciplinary Minors)
 6. Good of the order
 7. Adjourn
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1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

2) Review of the minutes from January 26th, 2018

The minutes from January 26th, 2018 were approved as written.

3) Chair's report

CSE direct admissions proposal

Stroup explained members of the FCAS Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) have now reviewed the initial Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) 1503 proposal to implement direct-to-major admissions, and those comments have been collated and forwarded to CSE. Several SCAP members commented on the seemingly small percentage of transfer students the School plans to accept following the change, though it was discovered the percentage has historically been that low. The School responded to SCAP's concern and is considering altering the proposal and increasing the percentage. It was noted once appropriate, the proposal would be placed online and FCAS members asked to comment on it. Members from CSE will also be included in the online interface to answer questions and engage in a dialogue. In relation to the proposed implementation timeline, it is not clear CSE will be able to implement the admissions change for 2019 as originally planned. Stroup noted she would report on this as more information becomes available.

Arts and Sciences direct-to-division proposal

Stroup explained she is currently meeting with a member of the College every other week to discuss and work on the proposal to implement direct-to-division admissions in the College of Arts and Sciences. She explained she believes FCAS is learning how to better coach schools and colleges interested in

implementing direct admissions as more proposals are received. It was noted 2020 is the target implementation year.

Best practices for direct-to admissions proposals

Stroup explained the Undergraduate Enrollment Management Taskforce continues to work on revising language for the draft “FCAS Guidelines for Proposals for Freshman Direct Admission to College, School, or Major.”

Medical Excuse Note Policy

It was noted a draft of the previously-discussed Medical Excuse Notes Policy is current under development.

Areas of Knowledge

Stroup explained the effort on behalf of FCAS members to develop language for UW’s Areas of Knowledge continues.

Best practices for syllabi

Stroup noted FCAS Best Practices for Syllabi are still also currently under development.

4) SCAP report

Routine Business

#1 – Neurobiology

The request is for revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Neurobiology to incorporate new courses.

Shores noted there was some back and forth with the department relating to catalog copy revisions. Ultimately, the issues were fixed and SCAP approved the request and forwarded it to FCAS.

The request was approved by majority vote of members.

Non-Routine Business

#1 – Engineering

The request is for a new admission pathway for programs in the College of Engineering.

Shores explained the Washington State Academic RedShirt (STARS) program has been experimental within the College of Engineering formerly, but now the College would like to have it formalized as a pathway to its programs. Some statistics were presented on the success of the program, which “supports engineering and computer science students from low-income backgrounds and underserved

high schools in navigating the transition to college-level engineering courses.” It was noted SCAP worked with the College in relation to the intersection of the STARS program and the recent College of Engineering shift to direct-to-college admissions, and eventually approved the request and forwarded it to FCAS.

The request was approved by majority vote of members.

#2 – Earth and Space Sciences

The request is for revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Earth & Space Sciences.

The request was approved by majority vote of members.

#3 – Human Centered Design and Engineering

The request is for a new Option in Data Science within the Bachelor of Science degree in Human Centered Design and Engineering.

The request was approved by majority vote of members.

#4 – Nutritional Sciences

The request is to change the name of the “Nutritional Sciences Minor” to “Nutrition Minor.”

It was explained that “Sciences” was requested to be removed from the program title because there is little science reflected in the coursework. There was some discussion.

The request was approved by a majority of voting members with two abstentions.

5) Guest: Patricia Kramer (Interdisciplinary Minors)

Former FCAS chair Patricia Kramer (Professor & Chair, CAS: Division of Social Sciences) joined the council to discuss the high credit load and other considerations relating to a draft Interdisciplinary Minor in Pre-Health Studies currently under development. Stroup clarified the 1503 proposal has not come to SCAP or FCAS yet. It was noted the credit load for the draft minor is currently 78 credits – an amount considerably higher than what is allowed via the FCAS Policy Pertaining to Minors (25-35 credits). Kramer explained FCAS discussed in some detail during the past academic year (2016-17) the idea to create a new credential to accommodate some of the ideas associated with building a robust program outside of majors, minors, or options. It was noted creating a new credential was found not to be the way to accommodate that idea, and so the ideas have been incorporated into a draft minor.

Kramer explained Pre-Health Studies is a difficult program idea to fit into a minor given the guidelines FCAS had established. She explained its credit load was actually substantially scaled back in order to get

down to 78 credits. She noted she would like to start by making note of the other ways in which the draft Minor would violate FCAS' Minor Policy, including:

- ❖ The minor would not have any upper-division courses; all of the 78 credits are lower-division credits. It was noted this is due in part to the nature of the program being a preparatory step towards applying for health sciences post-baccalaureate programs.
- ❖ The minor has no residency requirement. All of the credits could theoretically be accrued at another institution and students could then apply for and be granted the UW credential. It was noted this was done due to a particular concern for transfer students.
- ❖ At this time, there is no "culminating experience" associated with the program, a component required for UW interdisciplinary minors. It was noted a capstone would make it so some credits in-residence (at the UW) would become a program requirement.

Members felt having no requirement that credits be completed in-residence was problematic, as the minor would still be a UW credential. It was noted incorporating a capstone (aka. culminating experience) might help/solve that issue.

It was noted there would be some students that would not be able to fulfill the requirements of this minor – bioengineering, biology, and possibly chemistry – as there is currently too much course overlap for the minor to be fulfilled by students in those major programs.

It was noted organic chemistry makes up 18 of the 78 total credits, but cannot be removed as that coursework is necessary for applying to medical school.

A member asked how the Interdisciplinary Minor was designed, or what it was based on. Kramer explained pre-health advising exists at the UW, and the bulk of the coursework included was based on information gathered there. It was noted the basic idea was to create a credential that would allow other majors to be taken by a student, but still allow them a credential that includes coursework necessary for applications to medical school. It was noted this minor was not intended to explore other health fields besides medical school. A member noted he likes the idea, and thinks a capstone is too much work for the type of student likely to be interested in the minor.

It was noted the courses included in the draft minor are not all of the courses required for some applications to medical schools, and this will have to be made clear in the catalog copy.

Conclusion

Members were polled on their opinions relating to feasibility of accepting various components of the draft minor that violate FCAS policies: 0 members felt 78 credits would be unacceptable; 0 members felt the lack of upper-division courses would be unacceptable; 1-2 members felt the lack of residency requirement would be unacceptable.

6) Good of the order

Nothing was stated.

7) Adjourn

Stroup adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes by Joey Burgess, jmbg@uw.edu, council support analyst

Present: **Faculty:** Phil Brock (Arts & Sciences), Dan Ratner (Engineering), D. Shores (Business), Sarah Stroup (Arts & Sciences) (chair), Champak Chatterjee (Arts & Sciences), Lynn Dietrich (Education), John Sahr (Engineering), Ann Huppert (Built Environments), Mike Lockwood (Naval ROTC)
Ex-officio reps: Jennifer Payne, Navid Azodi, Robin Neal, Meera Roy, Louie Tan Vital
President's designee: Philip Ballinger
Guests: Janice DeCosmo, Robert Corbett, Emily Leggio, Tina Miller

Absent: **Faculty:** Daniel Enquobahrie (Public Health), Radhika Govindrajan (Arts & Sciences), Zhi Lin (Arts & Sciences)
Ex-officio reps: Conor Casey

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Report

1:30-3:00 p.m.

February 2, 2018, Gerberding 026

Routine Business:

Neurobiology ([NBIO-20170914B](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Neurobiology.

Background: The Department is proposing revising program requirements to incorporate new courses.

Action Taken 01/05/2018: SCAP requested proposed catalog copy be rewritten.

Update 01/10/2018: Dept has rewritten catalog copy (p.2)

Action Taken 01/19/2018: SCAP requested further catalog copy revisions.

Update 01/22/2018: Catalog copy revised (p.2)

Action taken 02/02/2018: Approved and forwarded to FCAS.

Non-Routine Business:

Engineering ([ENGR-20171001](#)) New admission pathway for programs in the College of Engineering.

Background: The Department is proposing a new admission pathway (STARS) for programs in the College of Engineering.

Action Taken 01/05/2018: SCAP requested more information about how the STARS admission pathway will work with the College of Engineering Direct to College admission pathway. Based on the proposed STARS Program Continuation Policy, SCAP would like to know when STARS students are admitted into an engineering department. The committee also requested information about how STARS students are placed and coded prior to being admitted into an engineering major.

Update 01/23/2018: The department responded (p. 33-41).

Action taken 02/02/2018: Approved and forwarded to FCAS.

Earth & Space Sciences ([ESS-20170517R](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Earth & Space Sciences.

Background: The Department is proposing revising existing program requirements.

Action taken 10/13/2017: SCAP requested the following:

1. Regarding electives, SCAP suggested indicating, “see website or adviser for approved list,” rather than list out all the electives.
2. SCAP suggested keeping proposed change E, and removing G, H, I, adjusting the proposed catalog copy accordingly. If the department chooses to keep G, H, and I, SCAP has requested a stronger justification.
3. Department recheck the credits to ensure they add up correctly.
4. Under the Environmental Earth Sciences Option, Quantitative Skills, ESS 310 is listed by itself; however in other places it is listed as ESS 310 or MATH 126. Department should update as necessary.
5. For each option, there is a 400-level course requirement; however 300-level courses are listed. Department should determine if this should be reorganized.

Update 11/30/2017: The department has responded (p.7-8), and provided a revised 1503 (p.1-6). For reference, original 1503 (p.9-14).

Action Taken 12/08/2017: SCAP requested the department:

1. Revise the number of credits under major requirements because it is inconsistent with options a and d.
2. Rewrite a. iii, b. v, c. iii, and d. iii

Update 01/16/2018: The department has provided a revised 1503 (p.5-6).

Action taken 02/02/2018: Approved and forwarded to FCAS.

Human Centered Design and Engineering ([HCDE-20170201](#)) Option in Data Science within the Bachelor of Science degree in Human Centered Design and Engineering.

Background: The Department is proposing a new option in Data Science.

Action Taken 01/05/2018: SCAP requested the 1503 form for catalog copy (both current and proposed) be revised to show the full major requirements. For the proposed requirement of at least one course in each of the five course areas, SCAP expressed concern that both Data Science and Society, and Data Visualization and Communication only had one course listed, and Data Management had two courses.

Update 01/16/2018: The department has responded (p.6) and provided a revised 1503 (p.2).

Action taken 02/02/2018: Approved and forwarded to FCAS.

Nutritional Sciences ([SPH-20171207](#)) Change name of program.

Background: The Department is proposing changing the name of the minor from Nutritional Sciences Minor to Nutrition Minor.

Action Taken 01/19/2018: SCAP wanted to know why the department is renaming the minor to remove ‘sciences’, but still refer to ‘nutritional sciences’ in their proposed catalog copy.

Update 01/23/2018: The department responded (p. 5).

Action taken 02/02/2018: Approved and forwarded to FCAS.
