

**University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards**

April 15th, 2016
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Gerberding 142

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Review of the minutes from April 1st, 2016
 3. SCAP
 4. Recommendation from SCA&G
 5. Geography question: Do initiating departments have a requirement to consider comments from affected units?
 6. Good of the order
 7. Adjourn
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1) Call to order

Kramer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. She called into the meeting remotely and explained Janssen will act as chair if she becomes disconnected.

2) Review of the minutes from April 1st, 2016

The minutes from April 1st, 2016 were approved as amended.

3) SCAP report

Old Non-Routine Business

#1 - Information School

The request is for an option in Data Science within Bachelor of Science degree in Informatics.

Shores explained SCAP approved the request.

The council approved the request by a majority vote.

#2 - School of Environmental and Forest Sciences

The request is for a name change from Landscape Ecology and Conservation (LEC) to Natural Resource and Environmental Management (NREM).

SCAP had approved the request.

The council approved the request by a majority vote.

#3 – Physics

The request is to establish a competitive admissions process for all options within the Bachelor of Science degree in Physics.

Shores explained after consultation with the Registrar’s office, the Physics department agrees that their proposed transcript-based admission should be considered as a minimum requirement. They believe that with this admission strategy, they will not need a continuation policy.

This proposal is an attempt to respond to a problem the department faces where students declare the Physics major, but do not take any Physics courses. One reason that students may do this is that while students are required to declare a major at 105 credits, there is no requirement to make progress toward graduation each quarter.

There was some discussion. Ratner questioned how many students would become “homeless” (without a major) after the change is implemented. Ballinger expressed that the council may benefit from attempting to focus efforts on treating the underlying cause of the problem rather than just the symptoms, perhaps through establishing a task force in the faculty senate to consider university enrollment issues (not only on a unit-by-unit basis). Kramer explained she had sent a proposal for such a task force (“Faculty Task Force on Enrollment”) to faculty senate leadership the last time this was brought up and is awaiting a response.

It was noted Kramer and Ballinger would continue to work to produce action around the issue.

The council approved the request by a majority vote.

New Non-Routine Business

#1 - College of Education

The request is for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, Communities, and Organizations.

After some discussion, it was decided that the request needs to be vetted by SCAP and returned to the council after re-consideration there.

The request was held.

4) Recommendation from SCA&G

Kramer noted the Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation has approved a recommendation concerning the process to create guidelines for criteria associated with direct-to-college admission (an admission-style proposed by the UW College of Engineering and the first of its kind at the university) for the College of Engineering:

SCAG voted to recommend that the Faculty Council on Academic Standards accept the responsibility, if asked, for developing the Direct to College, directions to Admissions for selecting the Direct to College students.

Kramer explained there was concern that specific directions for the development of direct-to-college admission criteria need to come from faculty, before going to the Office of Enrollment Management.

Kramer noted if a motion authorizing FCAS involvement is approved by the council, she will create an ad-hoc subcommittee to work with the Office of Enrollment Management and the College of Engineering to develop the direct-to-college admission criteria. It was noted any motion of authorization must also include the College's respective curriculum committee's involvement and sign-off (in this case, a body belonging to the College of Engineering).

Kramer questioned if FCAS is willing to accept this responsibility and noted that the council will ultimately vote to decide. Some members spoke for and against the involvement in FCAS.

After prolonged discussion, council members came to an agreement on the best way to move forward. Ratner made a motion, stating:

FCAS recommends that the Office of Enrollment Management work with the College of Engineering to help craft the guidelines that will go into the college's criteria for admissions. When the proposal comes for review to SCAP, it should include the outcomes of that criteria (i.e., the results of applying the criteria to a real freshman class within a model).

The motion was approved by a majority vote.

Ballinger explained he and Leggio will work to combine the university's holistic review model with the needs of the College of Engineering. He noted they will draft a proposal for the College of Engineering and conduct associated modeling of applicant pools and an academic cohort.

A timeline was set for this process to take place. It was noted initial modeling should aim to be completed within two weeks.

5) Geography question: Do initiating departments have a requirement to consider comments from affected units?

Kramer noted during the last academic year, the council set up the process for arbitration of course overlap issues between units, which largely includes units working with each other to create a solution with FCAS as the ultimate arbiter if a resolution cannot be found. She noted this process is working as intended for the most part.

She explained a specific situation has come up, wherein the Department of Urban Design and Planning had proposed a course in GIS (Geographic Information System) and was told to discuss the overlap and equivalency issue with other departments. During this process, the Department of Geography requested that Urban Planning change the course's name, as it currently is very similar to that department's own course on GIS. The Department of Geography has asked whether there is a process to arbitrate this, as Urban Planning has refused to change the name of their proposed course. Kramer explained the Department of Geography wanted to bring this example as a more global process question as to what happens when mediation fails.

After discussion, it was noted appeals of this type should come to FCAS. Kramer explained the UW Curriculum Committee (UWCC) approved the proposed course, as the course prefix includes is URDP (i.e., "Urban Planning") and so is distinguishable from the Department of Geography course.

6) Good of the order

Nothing was stated for the good of the order.

7) Adjourn

Kramer adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Phil Brock, Mark Johnson, Peter Hoff, Don Janssen, Patricia Kramer (chair), Dan Ratner, D. Shores
Ex-officio reps: LeAnne Jones Wiles, Robin Chin Roemer, Roy Taylor
Presidential designee: Philip Ballinger
Guests: Marianne Ramos, Robert Corbett, Helen Garrett, Matt Winslow, Emily Leggio

Absent: **Faculty:** Robert Harrison, Sarah Stroup, Thaisa Way, Daniel Enquobahrie, Champak Chatterjee
Ex-officio reps: Aaron Vetter

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Report

1:30-3:00 p.m., April 8th, 2016, Gerberding 026

Old Non-Routine Business:

Asian Languages and Literature - ([ASIAN-20151119](#)) Revised program requirements for both the Bachelor of Arts degree in South Asian Languages and Literature and the minor in South Asian Languages and Literature.

Background: The department is renumbering its first-, second-, and third-year language courses to be consistent with current practices, and needs to update the requirements listed accordingly. They are also increasing the required language credits for the major by 6, and reducing the South Asian Humanities and Social Sciences credits required by 5, increasing the total credits required for the major from 69 to 70.

Action Taken 02/12/16: Held. SCAP requests that the department include a rationale for the proposed decrease in required South Asian Humanities and Social Sciences credits, and increase in required Language credits.

Update 04/05/16: Department provided rationale, see attached (684423).

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP requested additional information regarding the rationale for the proposed decrease in required South Asian Humanities and Social Sciences credits, and increase in required Language credits.

Engineering- ([ENGR-20160209](#)) Establishing direct-to-college freshman admission for all programs in the College of Engineering.

Background: The College of Engineering proposes to establish a direct-to-college admission pathway and process for freshmen. Freshmen would be admitted to the College of Engineering in a new undeclared status, and then place into an engineering major after completing freshman-level requirements. See proposal and rationale.

Action Taken 2/26/16: Some discussion ensued; no official comments at this time.

Action Taken 3/11/16: Some discussion ensued and it was concluded that more information is needed in order to better assess the proposal. Therefore, before continuing the discussion, it was requested that the Department answer the questions previously sent by the Subcommittee for Admissions and Graduation as well as those previously posed by Patricia Kramer (FCAS chair) and Sarah Stroup (SCAP chair).

Update 3/16/16: The Department requested additional information since they state that the questions previously sent to them were incorporated into the 1503. SCAP chair will follow up with the Department.

Update 04/05/16: No further materials provided.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: Some discussion ensued; no official comments at this time.

Information School - ([INFO-20151117](#)) Option in Data Science within Bachelor of Science degree in Informatics.

Background: The Information School is asking to add an option in Data Science to their transcribed options within the Informatics major. Data Science is an emerging interdisciplinary field that works to extract knowledge or insight from data. Follows the same 4 course format of their existing options.

Action Taken: 11/20/2015 – Hold. SCAP is concerned this option is too restrictive and wants to know if the School plans on adding new courses and moving to an approved list, 4 of the following 6, etc model. Would students who only complete 3 of the 4 classes be allowed to graduate under the general “customized” option? Also they are revising catalog copy which need to be updated on the form.

Update: 11/30/2015 – The I-School has asked to have the 1503 set aside until so all of the Data Science 1503's across the campus can be submitted at the same time.

Update: 12/10/2015 – The I-School has asked to move forward on the 1503.

Action Taken: 01/15/16 – Hold. SCAP would like further clarification on how and when the courses will be offered due to the restrictive nature of the option. Also requesting sign-off on the 1503 from ACMS.

Update: 01/26/16 – ACMS sign off received. Department has included information about when the courses will be offered, and a list of substitute courses students could have approved should there be difficulties with option completion. Catalog information layout has also been updated by department.

Action Taken: 01/29/16 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

Update: 03/09/16 – Posted for Tri- Campus Review, one comment.

Action Taken 3/11/16: SCAP requested department respond to the issue raised during Tri-Campus Review regarding STAT 293.

Update: 04/05/16: The Department confirmed that STAT 293 should be removed, it should have been STAT 390, updated Catalog description is attached.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP Approved and forwarded to FCAS

School of Environmental and Forest Sciences - ([ESRM-20160127](#)) Option name change from Landscape Ecology and Conservation (LEC) to Natural Resource and Environmental Management (NREM).

Background: The School of Environmental and Forest Sciences forgot to request this option name change on their last option revision. Change is requested to reflect the recent curricular changes in the option (AUT 2015), and to allow the School to seek NREM option accreditation from the Society of American Foresters.

Action Taken 02/12/16: Held. SCAP would like the program to outline the referenced curricular changes for the committee as part of the request.

Update 03/21/2016: Department responded, see attached.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP Approved and forwarded to FCAS

Physics- ([PHYS-20160120](#)) Establishing a competitive admissions process for all options within the Bachelor of Science degree in Physics

Background: The Physics department proposes to institute competitive admission for all options within the Physics major. Proposal and rationale attached. Proposal includes two categories: “transcript-based”, for which students must complete all prerequisite courses at the UW within a limited time period prior to the application for admission; and “petition-based,” which would require students to have completed at least one prerequisite course at the UW (or strongly address this in a personal statement), as well as a personal statement and an interview not requested of the “transcript-based” admission applicants. The A&S Curriculum Committee approved the proposal, but recommends that Physics consider a “holistic” process instead.

Action taken 02/26/16: Hold. SCAP likes the transcript-based proposal as minimum requirement admission and suggests a strong continuation policy to ensure admitted students are committed to the major. SCAP is concerned with the prerequisite of UW only classes and has asked department to work with Registrar’s office and Undergraduate Academic Affairs on the proposal.

Update 03/08/16: Department is not interested in a continuation policy at this time; however, they have removed the prerequisite of UW only classes and instead would require students to be enrolled in a List 1 course at UW during the quarter in which their application is submitted. See Department’s reply included in the scan, as well as additional documents.

Action Taken 3/11/16: SCAP requested that the Office of the Registrar speak with the Department in order to help clarify SCAP’s concerns and suggestions.

Update 03/21/2016: The Office of the Registrar spoke with the Department.

Update 04/05/16: Department agrees that their proposed transcript-based admission should be considered as minimum requirement, they believe that with this admission strategy they will not need a continuation policy, see attached response.

Update 04/08/2016: SCAP Approved and forwarded to FCAS

Materials Science and Engineering- ([MSE-20160126](#)) New continuation policy for the Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering degree (including the Nanoscience and Molecular Engineering option) and the minor in Materials Science and Engineering.

Background: The Material Science and Engineering Department proposes a new continuation policy. See proposal and rationale.

Action Taken 3/11/16: SCAP requested Office of the Registrar follow up with the Department regarding their intent to include minor in continuation policy. FCAS policy pertaining to minors will be referenced.

Update 04/04/2016: The department agrees to not include the minor in the continuation policy and provided answers to SCAP's questions, see attached.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: Discussion on this proposal will take place at the upcoming SCAP meeting.

New Non-Routine Business:

School of Public Health- ([SPH-20160217](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Informatics and Health Information Management (HIHIM).

Background: HIHIM suggests adding undergraduate SPH courses to the list of "group start" courses to enable HIHIM students to fulfill their general education or elective requirements. This would mostly benefit students on a two-year schedule and those who have not yet completed the elective requirement upon admittance into the program. Previously students have taken fee-based courses offered through the UG Evening Degree Completion Program, however, the number of these courses are decreasing and will be eliminated by the end of the 2017 summer quarter.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP requested a complete list of the "group start" courses, as well as acknowledgement from the departments offering the courses that they are aware of this proposal and have no objections.

Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media - ([CLIT-20151221A](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Comparative Literature and for the option in Cinema Studies.

Background: The Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media Studies department proposes changes to more accurately reflect the relationship between the options in the major, as well as the distinction between the Cinema Studies option within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Comparative Literature, and the new/proposed Bachelor of Arts degree in Cinema and Media Studies. Additionally, the department seeks to replace one required course, National Cinema, with a choice of critical concept courses. The new selection of courses would not require foreign language proficiency and would thus be more accessible to students given the University's reduced language skills requirement.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP requested that the UW Curriculum Office contact the department for more information regarding the need for both an option and a major in Cinema and Media, and suggest an RCEP for the option in Cinema Studies.

Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media - ([CLIT-20151221B](#)) New Bachelor of Arts degree in Cinema and Media Studies.

Background: The Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media Studies department proposes a new major in Cinema and Media Studies under a minimum requirement admission model. New courses and prefix change request have been submitted and will be reviewed during the April 19th UWCC meeting.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: SCAP requested that the department contact the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at UW Tacoma, as they offer a Film and Media track within their Arts, Media, and Culture major, and also include information regarding other places within the state that comparable curriculum can be found (i.e., programs at other Colleges and Universities in the state). They also requested that the department provide the appropriate sign offs from the non-CMS departments whose courses are included on the proposal. Concern regarding the lack of shared experience in the major also arose.

Bioethics and Humanities- ([BH-20160307](#)) Revised program requirements and change of program name for the minor in Bioethics.

Background: The Bioethics and Humanities department is requesting to eliminate the two core course lists (due to faculty retirement) and move to a model of any 18 credits of B H courses +7 additional credits from an approved list. This will also increase the minimum number of required B H credits from 15 to 18. Department is also requesting change of name of minor from Bioethics and Humanities to Bioethics.

Action Taken 04/08/2016: Rationale behind increasing the minimum number of required B H credits from 15 to 18 was requested.

College of Education - ([EDUC-20151103](#)) Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, Communities, and Organizations

Background: The College of Education is proposing a new undergraduate degree similar to ECFS in that it is not a certificated teacher preparation program, but focused on educating students interested in working with K-16 populations in traditional classrooms (para-educators), afterschool programs, youth-serving organizations, health clinics, and a range of professional environments serving adult learners.

Action Taken: 11/20/2015 – Hold. SCAP wants to avoid another competitive major – wants the College to set minimum admission requirements and try to request additional resources if they surpass 65 students per year in the major. What higher education careers would this prepare students for? Look at admission requirements for native students vs transfer students.

Update: The College is discussing SCAP's comments and will reply in January.

Update: 01/12/16 -- See College's reply included in the scan, as well as additional documents.

Action Taken: 01/15/16 – Hold. SCAP still wants to avoid another competitive major. Request College re-consider minimum requirements admission.

Update: 01/26/16 -- College is requesting to launch the major with minimum admission, rather than competitive admission. See memo and updated requirements.

Action Taken: 01/29/16 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

Action taken 02/05/16: Returned to SCAP from FCAS. FCAS noted that while the minimum admission requirements stated the student must have completed or be enrolled in EDUC 280, nowhere is it listed that the student must complete the course (e.g., it is not included in the major requirements). There was also concern regarding whether the subject area of the proposed major overlapped with the School of Social Work's Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Welfare. Department was emailed regarding these questions 2/8/16.

Update 02/9/16: No response yet from department.

Update 02/23/16: Department has updated requirements to account for completion of EDUC 280 and listed it in the major requirements per catalog custom, and has reached out to the School of Social Work. See updated material and memo dated 2/23/16.

Action Taken 02/26/16: Approve and forward to FCAS, contingent upon an official response from the School of Social Work indicating that they have no concerns.

Update 04/06/16: Undergraduate Academic Affairs responded and confirmed that the College of Education has been working with the *Center for Experiential Learning and Diversity* on the development of this program, and that there are not concerns surrounding community partners being oversaturated with UW students.

Held Business:

Construction Management - ([CM-20150901](#)) Minor in Construction Management

Background: The Construction Management department wants to establish a minor in that would be available to a very limited population of students. See email from chair of department.

Action Taken: 11/20/2015 – Hold. SCAP likes the minor but it is too restrictive. They need to find a way to open it up to other majors besides CEE or make it an option.

Update: CM is in discussions with CEE and will reply to SCAP's comments in January.

Update: 01/13/16, 01/26/16, 02/09/16, 2/23/16, 3/11/16, 04/04/2016: no response yet

Department of English- ([ENGL-20160107](#)) Minor in Writing.

Background: The English department wants to establish a minor in Writing, designed to provide a concentrated study of and practice in writing.

Action Taken 02/12/16: Held. SCAP has concerns that there is an overall lack of cohesion in the proposed requirements in regard to a focus on writing (as opposed to non-writing courses). There are also questions regarding the frequency at which some of the listed courses are offered, and the demand for the minor.

Update 02/23/16, 3/11/16, 04/04/2016: departmental response enroute.

Department of English- ([ENGL-20160115](#)) Revised admission and program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

Background: The English department would like to eliminate the writing link course (ENGL 297) currently required to be taken with the gateway lecture course (ENGL 202) for admission. There are accompanying changes in the number of elective credits required for the degree (to keep the total required credits at 60), and a reduction in the number of 200-level courses allowed toward the degree (to keep the number of 200-level electives permitted constant with the current version).

Action Taken 02/12/16: Held. SCAP would like more information regarding how the writing experience/assessment currently offered by 297 would be accounted for if the course is eliminated as a prerequisite.

Update 02/23/16, 03/08/16, 3/11/16, 04/04/2016: departmental response enroute.

Early Childhood & Family Studies- ([ECFS-20160209](#)) Updated requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Family Studies.

Background: The Early Childhood & Family Studies Department is requesting a course prefix change from EDSPE 419 to ECFS 419 to reflect revised course content and purpose, and is requesting to update the catalog language to match. See proposal and rationale.

Note: Request to change course prefix has been made and will be reviewed by UWCR on 03/15/2016.

Action Taken 3/11/16: Approved pending UWCC course change approval.

Update 03/15/2016, 04/04/2016: Course change pending.