

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
May 29th, 2015
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Gerberding 142

Meeting Synopsis:

- 1) Call to order
 - 2) Review of the minutes from May 15th, 2015
 - 3) SCAP report
 - 4) SCAG
 - 5) Chair's report
 - 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. Badger introduced Ward Taylor to the council. Taylor will be next year's University Affairs Coordinator for the ASUW, and therefore, one of the student representatives appointed to the council in the 2015-2016 academic year. The council welcomed him.

2) Review of the minutes from May 15th, 2015

The minutes from May 15th, 2015 were approved as amended.

3) SCAP report

Old Non-Routine Business

#1 – History

Keil explained the 1503 includes a request for a series of new options within the BA in History as well as revised program requirements. SCAP approved this request.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

New Routine Business

#1 – Anthropology

Keil noted the request includes revised admission requirements for all options in the BA in Anthropology. A member noted Anthropology has voted to become an open major at UWS with open options, which the council agreed to be a very positive change.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

#2 – School of Art

The School of Art has requested a change to their admissions and program requirements, including reducing the number of credits required for the BA in Fine Arts by five credits and providing greater course selection.

After discussion, it was agreed the request was straightforward and non-controversial.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

#3 – Slavic Languages and Literatures

#4 - Slavic Languages and Literatures

#5 - Slavic Languages and Literatures

#6 - Slavic Languages and Literatures

#7 - Slavic Languages and Literatures

The request includes revised program requirements for a the minor in Russian Language, the minor in Slavic Languages, the minor in Russian Literature/Slavic Literature, and the option in Eastern European Languages, Literatures, and Culture for the BA in Slavic Languages and Literature.

Keil noted SCAP had been waiting on some revised components for this request from the department, which have now been completed. SCAP approved of these requests.

Kramer asked if there was any discussion; there was none.

The council voted unanimously to approve all five requests.

#8 – Computer Science and Engineering

Keil noted this request includes revised program requirements for the BS in Computer Engineering. SCAP found nothing controversial with the request.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

#9 – Human Centered Design and Engineering

This request was held by SCAP, Keil noted. The request will come to the council for a vote in a later meeting after SCAP has approved.

#10 – Integrated Sciences

It was noted the request includes revised admission requirements for all options within the BA in Integrated Social Sciences.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

#11 – Education

Keil explained the department has requested revised program requirements for the BA in Early Childhood and Family Studies. It was noted this is a minor change and non-controversial.

The council approved the request by unanimous vote.

New Non-Routine Business

#1 – Integrated Sciences

The program has requested to change a Bachelor of Arts to a Bachelor of Science for Integrated Sciences degree; SCAP declined the request. Pengra noted electronically that he agrees with the decision to decline the request. Keil noted the program did not provide any new substantive evidence that the request to shift from a BA to a BS for the Integrated Sciences degree is warranted. He noted this is simply an update for the council, to be aware of the request and SCAP's denial of it.

It was also pointed out that the original Integrated Sciences 1503 was for a BS, and back then they were informed by FCAS that what they were proposing was a BA, not a BS. At that time they accepted this change, and revised their proposal to be for a BA in Integrated Sciences.

Course change/ course form

Keil asked members to take a look at the changes that were made to the course change and course creation forms at their leisure. Kramer noted these were somewhat minor tweaks to bring the forms in compliance with newly adopted FCAS policies. It was noted any comments or objections to the documents should be forwarded to Keil or Kramer.

4) SCAG

Homeschooled students / enrollment application requirements

Janssen noted it has come to the attention of the subcommittee that it is difficult for the university to appraise the level of schooling achieved by UW applicants who have been homeschooled in place of attending regular high school. He explained that though SAT or ACT test scores can be used for verification of language arts and mathematical ability, this method does not account for the science disciplines or foreign languages, as the SAT test does not include sections on these subjects.

Janssen noted SCAG has decided they will temporarily remove this verification requirement, effective until spring of 2018 in order to determine if the requirement is necessary. He noted that Admissions will recommend that homeschooled students provide any standardized test scores for Science and Foreign language in order to improve their competitiveness for admissions. The Office of Admissions will evaluate graduation rates as well as several other factors, to see if differentials are evident between homeschooled and non-homeschooled students. SCAG will look in-depth at the results in autumn of 2018.

Geo-index data use

Janssen explained that SCAG recently voted to approve the use of geo-index census track data as an additional piece of the overall evaluation of applicants to the UW. The Geo-index data will be

incorporated into the Adversity Factors portion of the Personal Quality Assessment (PQA) which includes fiscal information such as average family income, family size, high school economic data, and education levels of parents. This information will be used to help ensure a diverse student body.

Ballinger noted the Office of Admissions had been using fairly macro-level data for evaluations previously, and after working with an outside consultant, they believe that their evaluations would benefit from more neighborhood-centric, localized, specific data on potential students. It was noted that no other American university is currently doing this, as far as Admissions knows. Kramer clarified that this is a trial.

2015-2016 incoming freshman class

Ballinger explained at the UWS campus, the goal for the freshman class size was 6400, 25 more students than last year. He noted they are currently expecting 6750 students. He explained the primary reason for this large number was an unexpected increase in non-resident student acceptances. He noted there was also an unexpected drop in resident student acceptances. Nonetheless, the incoming class will still be the third largest class of resident students in UW's history.

5) Chair's report

Kramer noted she forwarded the presidential recommendation letter on behalf of FCAS to senate leadership. She noted that the leadership was pleased to receive the letter as no other faculty council submitted a document noting their recommendations of issues to be tackled by an incoming university president.

Kramer noted the application fee topic, which was previously highlighted by FCAS as an area of concern, is on the agenda for the upcoming Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting meeting.

6) Good of the order

Kramer noted Tina Miller (Associate Registrar) has been hard at work compiling data on four-year graduation rates segmented by academic unit. She noted the data is not in a final form. Miller has looked at a variety of factors in compiling the data, including the fact that some units have a small numbers of students who enter as freshman, which will potentially skew the four-year graduation rates data for those particular units.

Miller noted there are some positive upward trends evident in the data over a period of years. She explained she believes that in a lot of cases, students are finishing their degrees in "just over the 4 year mark." Kramer mentioned the university needs to communicate to students that, generally, students in certain disciplines are not graduating in four years. Ratner noted there are cases wherein students actually desire to be at the university longer than what is standard.

Way asked how many five-year degrees there are at the UW. Miller explained the answer is "about a handful."

After discussion, the council found that though there are factors such as a student's decision to study abroad which may lengthen their time-to-degree, the distinctions in the data (between some units) are too dramatic to be solely attributed to possible data skews such as this.

Janssen noted the number of credits actually accumulated at the time of graduation would be another interesting number to see, for those students who did graduate.

Wensel noted there are or were “tracking sheets” kept in the English Department, where it is documented if a student postpones graduation and why they were delayed. She noted that the #1 reason students did not graduate on time was the completion of their foreign language requirement, based on data from these tracking sheets. She noted the lowest contributing factors to delayed graduation of students were “university error” and “lack of available classes [needed to graduate].” She mentioned this historical data could be useful for additional analyses.

Ballinger noted a software tool was developed within institutional research designed for getting a sense of how students transfer between majors by area. He explained he might be able to see if that tool might be available for the council’s use, as it may be useful in seeing trends in student transfers. Kramer agreed this to be an interesting proposition.

Kramer noted these data provide a good context for considering program requirements for certain majors. She noted the data are useful for understanding needs, incorporated into a bigger picture of what is going on within the university’s varying academic realms. Way explained her department is structured to the point that students cannot afford to fall behind, as courses are often taught in series, requiring completion of the previous course to further proceed in that series. She noted it would be interesting to evaluate the benefits and potential drawbacks for these types of majors.

Kramer noted the data will be used to set up council work for next year.

Ballinger noted the large majority of degrees at the UW are communicated as “four-year degrees,” though the data does not necessarily provide evidence of this. Kramer noted the university should be supplying information to students that helps them make decisions about enrolling here.

There was question in the council if there are four-year degrees which require more than 180 credits. Members noted two degrees off-hand which require more than the somewhat standard 180 credits for completion.

Members agreed there are four major concerns associated with low four-year graduation rates:

- Financial aid costs
- An expectations that a bachelor’s degree is a four-year degree
- Assessments from other institutions of the UW’s effectiveness as a higher education institution
- Capacity issues – students need to leave for there to be room for others

Council membership

Keil requested a show of hands of members rolling off the committee in the next academic year. Keil noted he will be rotating off. Kramer noted she specifically told the Faculty Senate office that FCAS would benefit from having members from the College of the Environment for next year’s membership.

Kramer noted the final council meeting of the 2014-2015 academic year is June 12th.

7) Adjourn

Kramer adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

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

Present: **Faculty:** Phil Brock, John Deehr, Don Janssen, Richard Keil, Patricia Kramer (chair), Dan Ratner, D. Shores, Thaisa Way
Ex-officio reps: Hailey Badger, LeAnne Jones Wiles, Robin Chin Roemer
President's designee: Phil Ballinger
Guests: Mel Wensel, Janice DeCosmo, Robert Corbett, Emily Leggio, Tina Miller, Ward Taylor

Absent: **Faculty:** Robert Harrison, Peter Hoff, David Pengra, Sarah Stroup
Ex-officio reps: N/A

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Summary

1:30-3:00 pm

May 22, 2015

Gerberding 026

Old Non-Routine Business:

- 1. History - ([HIST-20150210](#))** New options in War and Society; Race, Gender, and Power; Empire and Colonialism; and Religion and Society within the Bachelor of Arts degree in History as well as revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in History.

Background: The department would like to create options to mirror their minors for students to have the option of having focused areas of study designated on their transcripts or just the standard major in history. Making editorial changes to program requirements to include option language.

Action Taken: 02/27/2015 – Approved pending changing grade requirements to cum 2.5 GPA in courses applied to the major.

Update: 3/2/2015 – Hold: Request for changes submitted to department, will need time to consider request.

Action Taken: 03/13/2015 – Hold for response.

Update: 04/01/2015 – The History department would like to request to drop the minimum grade of 2.0 in each course and the cumulative GPA as it applies to all History courses, but would like to maintain a 2.25 cumulative GPA for courses applied to the major. I will update the 1503 if SCAP approves of the changes. **

Action Taken: 04/10/2015 – Approve (with cumulative 2.25 GPA for courses applied to the major) and forward to FCAS.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Post Tri-Campus Review (5 positive comments). Approve and forward to FCAS.

New Routine Business:

- 1. Anthropology - ([ANTH-20150414](#))** Revised admission requirements for all options within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology.

Background: The Anthropology department has voted to become an open major with open options.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

- 2. School of Art - ([ART-20150302](#))** Revised admission and program requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Three Dimensional Forum.

Background: The School of Art is making changes to their admission and program to the 3D4M major, reducing the credits by 5 and providing more flexibility in course selection. These changes also carry over to the program requirements as the courses required for admission are also part of the program requirements.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

- 3. Slavic Languages and Literatures - ([SLAVIC-20150326A](#))** Revised program requirements for the option in Eastern European Languages, Literatures, and Culture within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

Background: The Slavic Languages and Literatures department is revising their program requirements to include new elective courses (suggested they move to an approved list model – see attached) and to add specify the number of 100-level and upper division credits required to complete all of their academic options and minors.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS pending department accepts proposed catalog copy reformatting.

Update 5/26/2015 - Department approved

NEXT MEETING: June 5, 2015

4. Slavic Languages and Literatures - ([SLAVIC-20150326B](#)) Revised program requirements for the minor in Russian Literature/Slavic Literature.

Background: The Slavic Languages and Literatures department is revising their program requirements to include new elective courses (suggested they move to an approved list model – see attached) and to add specify the number of 100-level and upper division credits required to complete all of their academic options and minors.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending department accepts proposed catalog copy reformatting.

Update 5/26/2015 - Department approved

5. Slavic Languages and Literatures - ([SLAVIC-20150326C](#)) Revised program requirements for the option in Russian Language, Literature, and Culture within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

Background: The Slavic Languages and Literatures department is revising their program requirements to include new elective courses (suggested they move to an approved list model – see attached) and to add specify the number of 100-level and upper division credits required to complete all of their academic options and minors.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending department accepts proposed catalog copy reformatting.

Update 5/26/2015 - Department approved

6. Slavic Languages and Literatures - ([SLAVIC-20150326D](#)) Revised program requirements for minor in Slavic Languages.

Background: The Slavic Languages and Literatures department is revising their program requirements to include new elective courses (suggested they move to an approved list model – see attached) and to add specify the number of 100-level and upper division credits required to complete all of their academic options and minors.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending department accepts proposed catalog copy reformatting.

Update 5/26/2015 - Department approved

7. Slavic Languages and Literatures - ([SLAVIC-20150326E](#)) Revised program requirements for minor in Russian Language.

Background: The Slavic Languages and Literatures department is revising their program requirements to include new elective courses (suggested they move to an approved list model – see attached) and to add specify the number of 100-level and upper division credits required to complete all of their academic options and minors.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending department accepts proposed catalog copy reformatting.

Update 5/26/2015 - Department approved

8. Computer Science and Engineering - ([CSE-20150415](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering degree.

Background: The Computer Science and Engineering department and the Electrical Engineering department have created some integrated courses that will allow students better access and preparation to take courses in both departments. The proposed changes incorporate these new course as well as reflect several course changes. This will increase the required courses by 3 credits so they will reduce the electives by 3 credits to keep the changes credit neutral.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: June 5, 2015

9. Human Centered Design and Engineering - ([HCDE-20150414](#)) Revised admission and continuation requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Human Centered Design and Engineering degree.

Background: The HCDE department is proposing changing to their admission requirements to update credits amounts, course renumbering, and course frequency. These changes will require updating the continuation policy as it applies to Direct Freshman admits. (*Question – their Continuation Policy requires DFA students to have completed the courses required for regular admission by the start of their junior year or be dropped. These courses are not actually part of the “degree requirements” so are they allowed to do that?*)

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Hold. Research if department has prior FCAS approval for their existing continuation policy (CP). Check with department for approval. Registrar’s office no longer drops students for lack of payment from current quarter – revise CP #5. Recommend they specify which regular admissions requirements are expected to be completed as general education requirements to enforce in the CP. The CP should include a monitoring process during 2nd year to ensure students are making satisfactory progress rather than just dropping them at the end of 2nd year.

10. Integrated Social Sciences - ([ISS-20150506](#)) Revised admission requirements for all options within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Social Sciences.

Background: The Integrated Social Sciences program is creating a new required course (ISS 302 will be reviewed at the June 2nd Curriculum Meeting), reducing the number of credits of ISS 355 required for the major (from 8 to 4), and making minor editorial changes to the titles of the thematic areas. Overall credits will increase by 1 to 61.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS pending approval of ISS 302 at June 2nd UWCR meeting – bring 1503 to meeting for Patricia to sign.

11. Education - ([ECFS-20150429](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Family Studies.

Background: There have been some course renumbering for core courses required for the ECFS major that need to be reflected in the catalog. Also adding a course that was omitted from the last program approval.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

New non-Routine Business:

1. Integrated Sciences - ([INTSCI-20150421](#)) Change from a Bachelor of Arts degree to a Bachelor of Science degree in Integrated Sciences.

Background: The Integrated Sciences program is requesting to change to a Bachelor of Science degree. They feel that being a BA discourages students from applying, is not representative of the program requirements, and may limit career, scholarship, and graduate school opportunities. They have provided a comparison of other degree programs at the UW BA vs BS.

Action Taken: 05/22/2015 – Denied. Jennifer and Tina to send program an email and cc Rick and Patricia. Per prior FCAS vote, a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Washington is not a designation of a designation of science program of study but of depth in a particular area.

Other Business:

1. Revisions to [New Course](#) and [Course Change](#) Applications per FCAS guidelines on Distance Learning and Course Oversight.
Update 5/26/2015 - Revision requested by SCAP included.

NEXT MEETING: June 5, 2015

Held/Pending Response Business:

1. Integrated Sciences (NR) - ([INTSCI-20150113](#)) Establish new departmental honors requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Sciences.

Background: The program would like to establish departmental honors requirements for students completing the Integrated Sciences major.

Action Taken: 02/13/2015 – Hold. SCAP wants the Honors program to review the proposed Departmental Honors requirements and compare them to the Honors Requirements for the Disciplinary track majors. Appears as if Departmental Honors can be selected at the mid-end of senior year – should include more honors work earlier in the major.

Update: 2/23/2015 – Still waiting for comments from Honors

Action Taken: 02/27/2015 – Hold for Honors suggestions.

Update: 3/2/2015 – Honors agrees that the INTSCI 1503 Honors requirements as proposed are insufficient. They will provide some examples that Jennifer will send to INTSCI.

Action Taken: 03/13/2015 – Hold for revisions.

Action Taken: 04/10/2015 – Hold for revisions.

Update: 4/22/15 – sent inquiry on status.

2. Asian Languages and Literature (R)- ([ASIAN-20141202A](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Japanese.

Background: The department would like to update their program requirements to remove courses no longer taught and add new courses.

Action Taken: 02/13/2015 – Approve and forward to FCAS. Jennifer to recommend use of approved lists in catalog copy.

Update: 2/17/2015 – Save for next meeting as Curriculum Coordinator is out on vacation and not able to discuss proposed edits.

Update: 2/23/2015 – Still waiting for revisions from department.

Action Taken: 02/27/2015 – Hold for response

Action Taken: 03/13/2015 – Hold for response.

Action Taken: 04/10/2015 – Hold for revisions.

Update: 4/22/15 – sent inquiry on status.

3. Asian Languages and Literature (R)- ([ASIAN-20141202B](#)) Revised program requirements for the minor in Japanese.

Background: The department would like to update their program requirements to remove courses no longer taught and add new courses.

Action Taken: 02/13/2015 – Approved and forward to FCAS. Jennifer to recommend use of approved lists in catalog copy.

Update: 2/17/2015 – Save for next meeting as Curriculum Coordinator is out on vacation and not able to discuss proposed edits.

Update: 2/23/2015 – Still waiting for revisions from department.

Action Taken: 02/27/2015 – Hold for response.

Action Taken: 03/13/2015 – Hold for response.

Action Taken: 04/10/2015 – Hold for revisions.

Update: 4/22/15 – sent inquiry on status.

NEXT MEETING: June 5, 2015