

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
October 10, 2014
1:30pm – 3pm
Gerberding 26

Meeting synopsis:

1. Call to order
 2. Review of the minutes from September 26, 2014
 3. SCAP report
 4. Residency requirements for program changes
 5. Chair's report
 6. Good of the order
 7. Adjourn
-

1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Kramer at 1:30pm.

2) Review of minutes from September 26, 2014

The minutes from September 26, 2014 were approved as amended.

3) SCAP report

Consent agenda – New routine business

Items 1-4 were approved by SCAP and forwarded to FCAS for approval. A comment was raised noting that raising the credit hours required for majors, especially for programs in the STEM fields, is problematic and a concern for the university as it can affect 4-year graduation rates.

The consent agenda received unanimous approval.

Old non-routine business

#1 – English.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

#2 – Early Childhood and Family Studies (ECFS)

ECFS has been put on hold because of issues related to student residency, specifically whether the 45 credit requirement applies to generally admitted majors. Additionally, SCAP is looking for confirmation from other programs to make sure they are okay with the program-specific students taking their courses.

New non-routine business

#1 – Law, Societies and Justice (LSJ)

LSJ is proposing to raise the cumulative GPA for admissions to 2.5, cumulative GPA for graduation from 2.0 to 2.5, and require a minimum 2.0 in each course. The proposal was denied because the changes to the graduation requirements were not justified. LSJ will resubmit the 1503 with just changes to its admissions policy. Discussion ensued about the impact on transfer students who are enrolled in community colleges and intend to graduate with a major in LSJ. Corbett will research how UW will publish and notify students about the requirement changes. DeCosmo mentioned that any changes to transfer requirements should have a grace period after the initial notification.

#2 – Dance

The proposal received unanimous approval. Corbett noted the proposal will go through tri-campus review.

#3, #4, #6 – Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (NELC)

NELC is reorganizing its entire program and these changes appears to be fine, except for the requirement for 70% of courses applied to the major to be taken through UW. This latter issue is still under debate by SCAP (see below). The main change is adding Middle Eastern Studies 101 as a standard course that all students must take. All the changes in courses have been approved by the department's curriculum committee but are being held until the changes to the degree program is approval.

#5 – Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (NELC)

The proposal received unanimous approval.

#7 – Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (NELC)

NELC is suspending admissions to the option in comparative Islamic studies. Kramer clarified that NELC will undergo an RCEP and suspending admissions is the appropriate first step in the process.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

#8 – Comparative Literature, #9 – Economics, #10 - Economics

The proposals are currently on hold to address the programs' requirements.

4) “Residency” requirements for program changes

Members discussed the need to have a policy on “residency” requirements. This issue becomes complicated because courses that apply to majors can possibly be taken during sophomore year, as well as DL courses which do not count as “resident courses”. A suggestion was raised to call the term “in residence” as an alternative. Kramer explained that Jennifer Payne provided a list of current departments that have residency requirements and it appears the requirement varies widely based on the department.

Members discussed whether FCAS should be able to set the maximum number of non-UW credits each department is allowed to include in its graduation requirements or if the council should approve these policies on a case-by-case basis. A comment was raised that there are many students who may still be attempting to complete their degree but are no longer in WA. By forcing departments to have strict residency requirements it might put these students at a disadvantage due to their unique situation. A comment was raised that the current resident (UW and nonDL) rule is 45 of the last 60 credits and only 15 of those can be waived.

UW credit requirements also seem to be a growing issue with community colleges transforming into 4-year colleges. A comment was raised stressing the importance that a UW graduate should take the majority of his/her courses at UW. Discussion ensued. A comment was raised that SCAP does not want to create a roadblock but to have a baseline in what it can communicate back to units when they are changing their program requirements. Members discussed whether the baseline should be a specific number of credits or a percentage of all credits within the major. The difficulty in setting a specific level of credits is that departments vary widely in the number of credits required to receive a major. For example, social sciences require 50-60 credits while engineering is about 100. A suggestion was raised to set the credit number at 75 credits or 75% of all credits within the program.

Concern was raised about online courses and how the credits would be interpreted by these guidelines. A suggestion was raised to use the term "through the University of Washington" which would include UW Bothell and Tacoma. Discussion ensued about 1503s that may trigger a discussion at SCAP and the sharing of courses across UW campuses. Members agreed to use the term "University of Washington".

Janssen suggested 35 credits as appropriate guidelines that FCAS should follow. SCAP will continue to have this conversation to address the guidelines but members agreed that 35 credits maximum would be appropriate before trigger a conversation. Kramer clarified this will be an internal guideline that FCAS will follow. A suggestion was raised that this should be an official guideline for the council to follow.

5) Chair's report

Kramer is still waiting to hear back about the status of the integrated sciences program. Jennifer Payne ran an audit of the program to determine how many students declared a major, which is only one. Kramer clarified this is a different program than the recently-approved integrated social sciences.

Kramer has heard reports that the integrated social sciences program will open some sections to non-program specific students and apply the \$350 fee associated with the program. It is believed the reason for this is to increase enrollment levels by creating sections of courses in the regular time schedule. Concern was raised that this forces students to pay an additional fee just so they have access to the course. Discussion ensued about whether students were simply unable to fit the courses into their regular schedule or if they were trying to cram in extra credits over an academic quarter. A comment was raised that this issue is becoming a problem in the math department and it would be interesting to see if enrollment would be the same without the fee. Concern was raised that this forces students to pay additional fees, in addition to regular tuition, simply because the circumstances are forcing them. Additionally, this is on top of the highly-sensitive issue of college finances and student debt.

Note that FCAS does not object to generally admitted and program-specific students participating in the same course. All discussion was about the \$350 fee. Wensel noted that the fee will end for A&S courses after spring 2015.

Members discussed their personal experiences teaching crowded classrooms. A comment was raised that the university should stop admitting students until it can catch up with available classrooms due to space limitations. Kramer noted this issue should be addressed with the Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services.

Kramer reported on a recent proposal from the anthropology department which would allow students to complete more than one option which can be reflected on their transcript. FCAS does not have a policy which limits the number of options that students can take which is why this proposal is going forward. Discussion ensued about the ability to receive multiple majors across disciplines versus completing multiple options within one major. Many options overlap with others allowing students to receive additional credentials that are relatively easy to obtain. Since FCAS does not have a policy or guidelines about this this issue it may be something worth discussing in the future.

6) Good of the order

Janssen explained that two years ago when the council was addressing writing tests a statement was made that transfer students were not doing as well as native students. However, there was no coding at the time to differentiate the scores between transfer and native students. Janssen mentioned that the database of test scores is now available and the Registrar's office has the ability to differentiate between the two types of students. Janssen requested access to the database to determine how well students test to determine if there is a difference. Janssen explained that when he was chair of the Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation the committee passed recommendations that transfer students should provide standardized test scores similar to incoming freshman.

Ballinger explained that it is an issue worth looking at but college entrance for transfer students would be difficult. Janssen explained that he wanted to determine if this was a real problem. Discussion ensued. A comment was raised that transfer students are as nearly as efficient as incoming freshman in completing their 4-year degrees. Janssen emphasized that there is no data about how transfer students compare with entering freshmen in terms of writing proficiency and the data should be examined. Discussion ensued about the need of having this data examined. Ballinger suggested that the subcommittee submit a request to Carol Diem's office. A comment was raised that the data is only collected by the School of Business. Janssen reiterated that he still wanted to review the data.

Discussion ensued about how the test is administered, vetted and applied. Concern was raised about the effect of student demographics and language differences.

7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Kramer at 3pm.

Minutes by Grayson Court, council support analyst, gcourt@uw.edu

Present: Faculty: Kramer (chair), Janssen, Keil, Ratner, Shores, Stroup
President's designee: Ballinger

Ex officio representatives: Jones Wiles, Chin Roemer, Badger

Guests: Robert Corbett, Virjean Edwards, Emily Leggio, Janice De Cosmo, Mel Wensel

Absent:

Faculty: Hoff (sabbatical), Brock, Deehr, Harrison, Pengra, Way

Ex officio representatives: n/a

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Summary

1:30-3:00 pm

October 3, 2014

Gerberding 036

Old Non-Routine Business:

1. English - ([ENGL-20140203](#)) New minor in English

Background: The English department is one of the remaining few departments not offering a minor and there is demand for one from students.

Action Taken: 05/09/2014 – Pending confirmation of the exclusion of 100-level ENGL courses.

Update: 05/12/2014 – Confirmed exclusion of 100-level ENGL courses from the minor, also added exclusions for ENGL 295 (Study Abroad) and ENGL 491 (Internship) as well as the inclusion of a minimum 2.00 cum GPA for courses applied to the minor.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

2. Early Childhood and Family Studies - ([ECFS-20131008](#)) Revised admission and program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Family Studies; new option in Teaching and Learning within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Family Studies. .

Background: The ECFS major has experienced significant growth in the past 5 years including the addition of the online major. This increase in enrollment has led them to propose revising the major to allow students to either have a greater diversity of electives (geared towards double majors) or select deeper, content related preparation for students interested in teaching and learning. They are proposing to get eliminate the Biology Science/Development and the Mathematics/Statistics general education requirement (which was also an admission requirement for the online major); they are also revising the ECFS core (was 64 credits, now 50 credits; Add ECFS 200; Remove ECFS 301, 304, 305, 400, 454, and 455 – all of which + ECFS 312, 411, and one additional elective comprise the Teaching and Learning option). Students will pick either the 35-37 credit option or take a minimum of 30 credits of approved electives.

Action Taken: 06/06/2014 – Hold. Ask department why they are dropping the Biology/Developmental and the Mathematics/Statistics requirements. Also ask that the list of elective be revised to include a DL identifier for courses approved to be offered online.

Update: See response at end of scan.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Hold. SCAP would like to know if 45 credit residency requirement for on-line majors also should apply to on-site majors. Also they would like confirmation from ENGL, PSYCH, SOC, GH, and NUTR that ECFS program specific students are okay in their DL courses.

New Non-Routine Business:

1. Law Societies, and Justice - ([LSJ-20140522](#)) Revised admission and program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Law, Societies, and Justice.

Background: The department wants to raise cum GPA for admission to 2.50 and wants to change the cum GPA for graduation from a 2.0 to a 2.50 and require a minimum grade of a 2.0 in each course (see departmental response at end of pdf).

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Denied. SCAP has no problems if LSJ wants to come back with another 1503 for the admissions requirements but the program requirements will not be approved as submitted.

NEXT MEETING: October 17, 2014

2. **Dance** - ([DANCE-20140508](#)) Reinstate standard major option in Dance; revised admission and program requirement for all options within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance.

Background: Dance wants to reinstate the standard major option to allow students greater flexibility to study within the major. They are also asking to revise the admission requirements to allow students to declare the major sooner; and to revise the program requirements to allow more styles of dance to be counted towards the technique requirement which will allow students who study cultural/social/other forms of dance access to the major. Lastly update the catalog copy to reflect the currently coded 2.00 cum GPA in courses applied to the major.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Approve and forward to FCAS. Jennifer to make minor edits to catalog copy for clarity.

3. **Near Eastern Languages and Civilization** - ([NEARE-20140505A](#)) Revised program requirements for the option in Biblical and Ancient within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization.

Background: Making changes are part of a complete curricular overhaul.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Hold for residency policy. Jennifer to make minor edits to catalog copy for clarity.

4. **Near Eastern Languages and Civilization** - ([NEARE-20140505B](#)) Change name of the option from Cultures and Civilizations to Comparative Civilizations within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization and revised program requirements for the option in Comparative Civilizations within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization.

Background: Making changes are part of a complete curricular overhaul.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – – Hold for residency policy. Jennifer to make minor edits to catalog copy for clarity.

5. **Near Eastern Languages and Civilization** - ([NEARE-20140505C](#)) Revised program requirements for the minor in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization.

Background: Making changes are part of a complete curricular overhaul.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Approve and forward to FCAS. Jennifer to make minor edits to catalog copy for clarity.

6. **Near Eastern Languages and Civilization** - ([NEARE-20140505D](#)) Change name of the option from Languages and Civilizations to Languages and Cultures within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization and revised program requirements for the option in Languages and Cultures within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization.

Background: Making changes are part of a complete curricular overhaul.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Hold for residency policy. Jennifer to make minor edits to catalog copy for clarity.

7. **Near Eastern Languages and Civilization** - ([NEARE-20140505E](#)) Suspend admissions to the option in Comparative Islamic Studies within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Near Eastern Languages and Civilization through SPR/2015 while RCEP is in process.

Background: Making changes are part of a complete curricular overhaul.

Action Taken: 10/03/14 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: October 17, 2014

8. **Comparative Literature** - ([CLIT-20140509](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Comparative Literature.

Background: The department wants to add a residency requirement to the major.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Hold for residency policy.

9. **Economics** - ([ECON-20140529A](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Economics.

Background: The department wants to add a residency requirement to the major.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Hold for residency policy.

10. **Economics** - ([ECON-20140529B](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics.

Background: The department wants to add a residency requirement to the major.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Hold for residency policy.

New Routine Business:

1. **Art** - ([ART-20140508](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Art degree in Painting and Drawing.

Background: The School of Art needs to add 10 credits of elective studio credits to the painting and drawing BFA to bring it into alignment with the other BFAs offered.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

2. **Statistics** - ([STAT-20140609](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics, the Bachelor of Arts degree in Statistics, and the minor in Statistics.

Background: The department changed the credits of STAT 302 from 2 to 3 so each of the programs need to have the credits updated to reflect the correct total.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

3. **Architecture** - ([ARCH-20140812](#)) Revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Architectural Design.

Background: The department changed ARCH 210 and ARCH 211 (both 4 credits) to ARCH 200 and 201 (both 5 credits) so they need to update the requirements in the catalog to reflect the changes. They are also asking to reduce the elective credits for admissions from 3 to 1 to offset the credit increase for 200 and 201.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

4. **Medicine** - ([MED-20140902](#)) Revised program requirements for the Doctor of Medicine degree.

Background: The School of Medicine is updating the basic science component of the MD curriculum to comply with accreditation standards.

Action Taken: 10/03/2014 – Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: October 17, 2014

Other Business:

1. Sarah and Robert to work on language for establishing policy on “within major” residency requirements.
 - a. Jennifer and Dick Simkins to research existing residency within major requirements.

NEXT MEETING: October 17, 2014