

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
March 7, 2014, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Gerberding 142

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Review of the Minutes from February 21, 2014
 3. Chair's Report
 4. SCAP Report
 5. Initial Report on Enrollment Management
 6. Adjourn
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1) Call to Order

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

2) Review of Minutes from February 21, 2014

The minutes from February 21, 2014 were approved as written.

3) Chair's Report

Kramer reported that she had a long conversation with Jack Lee (Chair of the Faculty Senate) and Kate O'Neil (Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate) about new student enrollment management, direct freshman admissions, status of the University Curriculum Committee and general questions related to FCAS. The status of the University Curriculum Committee is very relevant to the conversation especially when Kramer received confirmation that the School of Law is seriously contemplating a "4+2" undergraduate-law school educational track.

Kramer also reported on a potential tri-campus major that would create complexities resulting from UW's current arrangement. Kramer explained that FCAS's charge is to "be responsible for matters of University policy relating to the academic affairs of the University" which also includes "inter-institutional academic standards". Based on this description the charge suggests that FCAS should play a role in these tri-campus academic issues.

Kramer clarified that the recently-approved ISS online degree is not a tri-campus major but is a UW-Seattle major that just happens to have a faculty member from UW-Bothell. Kramer explained that this individual is participating as adjunct faculty in political science at UW-Seattle which is a critical distinction. Kramer reported that she met with the Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy last week to discuss the proposal and address outstanding concerns. Kramer noted that most of the questions did not actually pertain to the proposal itself but more about this type of online degree, similar to questions raised by FCAS in the past.

Kramer reported that she presented to the Faculty Senate on issues related to enrollment management and student financial aid. Kramer clarified that task force on competitive admissions is a subcommittee of the larger Enrollment Management Task Force.

A question was raised asking for more information about the School of Law and their proposal for an undergraduate-law school educational track. Kramer does not have any more information so the council will have to address this at a later time. Discussion ensued. A comment was raised that this type of program is similar to some veterinary programs and law schools around the country to attract top students.

4) SCAP Report [Exhibit A]

Old Non-Routine Business

- 1. History - (HIST-20131018A) New minor in History of Empire and Colonialism*
- 2. History - (HIST-20131018B) New minor in History of War and Society*
- 3. History - (HIST-20131018C) New minor in History of Religion and Society*
- 4. History - (HIST-20131018D) New minor in History of Race, Gender, and Power*

The History department is trying to better showcase their depth of comparative fields and is proposing 4 new minors. Taggart moved to approve all 4 proposals together. Discussion ensued. A question was raised asking if all the proposed courses will be offered by faculty on a regular basis. Taggart assumed the department is aware of their obligations and responsibilities for offering these courses.

ACTION: The proposals received unanimous approval.

New Non-Routine Business

- 1. Anthropology - (ANTH-20140125) New option in Human Evolutionary Biology within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology*

The Anthropology department would like to add a fourth option in Human Evolutionary Biology that would provide students with a strong foundation in basic science, with an integrative perspective on the human organism, making them well-prepared to pursue careers in health or biological sciences. Taggart mentioned that the proposal will go to tri-campus review following FCAS' approval.

ACTION: The proposal received unanimous approval.

New Routine Business

- 1. Anthropology - (ANTH-20131018) Revised program requirements for the option in Archaeological Sciences within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology*

The Anthropology department would like to add additional courses to the list of the approved core which will reduce the bottleneck for students pursuing the option. In addition, they have recently split ANTH 482 into ANTH 482/486 and need to update the program requirements to reflect the change. A question was raised asking for the reason for the split. Archaeology used to have 6-credit courses which combined labs and lectures. The split was to separate the labs and lectures due to student complaints

that the time commitment was unclear. The split still contains the same number of total hours but provides students a better understanding of the courses.

ACTION: The proposal received unanimous approval.

2. School of Art - (DESIGN-20131210A) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Industrial Design

3. School of Art - (DESIGN-20131210B) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Visual Communication Design

4. School of Art - (DESIGN-20131210C) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Interaction Design

The School of Art is adding two classes to the Industrial Design major increasing it to 103 credits. They are also requesting to reformat the way the courses required for the major are displayed in the catalog. Compare their suggested layout with the proposed layout at the end of the pdf. The "current" layout was structured to display the commonalities between the majors in the Bachelor of Design degree.

NO ACTION: SCAP is holding these proposals to clarify the discrepancies between the catalogue copies versus the school's website requirements.

A question was raised about Design 323 which is located in the current listings but does not exist in the course description catalogue. Taggart will follow up on this issue.

5. Economics - (ECON-20140124) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Economics

The Economics department is adding two additional courses to their specified list of Theory and Methods courses. Taggart reported that ECON 484 is an approved course and ECON 405 is set to be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on 3/18/2014.

NO ACTION: SCAP will wait until all the courses are approved before approving the full proposal.

5) Initial Report on Enrollment Management

Kramer reported on recent developments regarding the Enrollment Management Advisory Council (EMAC). The task force is looking at everything from student admissions to graduation. For example, the task force is reviewing how UW recruits and finances students, gets them into majors, and sends them through to graduation. UW does not currently have a long-term strategic plan and many questions have been raised that require faculty and administration to address.

A critical problem is the issue of financial aid: there is too much need and not enough money. With the state removing financial support from UW the resulting increase in tuition is high. Additionally, this is occurring at the same time family pay is decreasing as a result of the recession. UW has been successful at meeting 100% of its obligations to the Husky Promise for students who come from low-income families. Kramer explained that the state instituted state need grant program without providing sufficient funds, resulting in the UW spending \$22 million in the current year to meet the promise. Despite the underfunded mandate UW decided to meet this obligation. The financial aid allocation

system worked well before the recession and has helped families in need. However, with the current financial situation this program has created problems.

Kramer presented a graph which highlighted the funding gap for middle-class families. There are two extremes: students from families with expected family contributions equal to the cost of attendance and students from low-income families who receive generous financial assistance from Pell grants, state need grants and aid from UW. As a result, there is a relatively large funding gap for (lower-) middle class families who do not qualify for government sponsored programs (Pell grants, state need grants, Husky promise) and cannot fully finance their children's education. The result is a disproportional amount of financial need compared to other income groups and Kramer stated this perceived as unfair.

The reason for EMAC is both to develop long term strategy and to identify and address acute problems. The first of these problems is to find a solution on how to approach the financial aid situation. Kramer clarified that the answer is not more money because there is none. McNerney stated that ASUW is working on this issue as well and is a big priority for Michael Kutz (ASUW president). Kramer explained that in order to understand the different alternatives for solving this problem UW needs to understand the core values of faculty. Kramer emphasized that if faculty do not speak up now they will miss the opportunity to provide critical advice on UW's long-term strategy for enrollment management. Kramer has discussed this with Jack Lee (Chair of the Faculty Senate) and the Faculty Senate to generate feedback from faculty members.

Kramer listed some suggested outcomes, including but not limited to:

- Enrollment
- Graduation
- Satisfactory progress

There are different ways to optimize these outcomes and Kramer asked members to provide feedback on these issues. In addition, Kramer listed several core characteristics of UW students that could be tracked, including but not limited to:

- Student profile
- "Diversity" profile
- Interest profile

Student profiles include incoming high school GPAs, SAT scores, AP/IB courses and other hard metrics that indicate academic prowess. Interest profiles are tied to student majors and what they do while they are attending UW. Kramer stated that she prioritizes student profiles lower compared to important characteristics like diversity profiles which is critical to UW's vision. Kramer further mentioned that diversity is consistent with UW's holistic admissions process.

A question was raised asking for clarification of "satisfactory progress". Satisfactory progress indicates that a student is pursuing a degree in something they want and how long it takes them to complete the degree. Other examples include attrition and time to degree. A question asked why time to degree is significant. Kramer explained this is a financial issue because students are accumulating debt each year and drawing resources (such as access to the university) away from other students. Discussion ensued about the difference between state and tuition funding.

Kramer explained that the important decision must address the type of students UW wants to enroll. A comment was raised that the student interest profile is important for individual departments. For example, the physics department wants students who are interested in physics. However, when looking at the big picture the student interest profile plays a different role. A comment was raised that incoming student interests are always different when compared to their major at graduation. For example, one-third of incoming students express interest in Engineering and one-fourth indicates Business. Since these are competitive majors, and not all students get accepted to the program of their choice, the incoming student interest profile is not consistent with their final majors. Additionally, students will move majors many times before graduation so the interest profile does not appear to accurately reflect the type of students who enter and graduate UW.

A comment was raised that recent studies have shown student success is closely tied to high school GPA and the income of their grandparents. GPA is a significant indicator of success because it indicates persistence and the student's engagement with their studies. The interest profile is a difficult indicator to use because students continue to change their major which may be due to their inability to get the major of their choice. For example, students who enter UW expressing interest in Business, and cannot get in to the program, might go into Economics which is a similar field. On the other hand, transfer students often know exactly what they want to pursue and enter UW with a much straightforward academic focus.

A question was raised asking about data related to student attrition and why students are leaving UW before graduation. This could be a result of several issues, such as grades or financial aid. A comment was raised expressing interest in data on students who leave because they did not receive enough financial aid to continue their studies. Discussion ensued about long term trends in financial aid for middle-class families. A suggestion was made to gather data from students to assess how much this impacts them directly. McNerney explained that there is student interest and ASUW recently conducted a survey on student financial aid and gathered 300 responses from students which resulted in useful findings.

Discussion ensued about the student interest profile and how it impacts individual departments and their move towards direct and competitive admissions. The actions of individual departments collectively have an influence on the overall characteristics of students who graduate. Members discussed the variations of direct admissions that are used at other institutions. A comment was raised that direct admissions makes a big difference when students are choosing between two similar institutions. Discussion ensued.

A comment was raised that deciding on which student will be good for a competitive major, just by reviewing a high school transcript, is a little presumptuous. Additionally, the benefit of attending university is to provide the opportunity for students to explore their interests and discover the possibilities of potential careers. A comment was raised expressing support to focus more on satisfactory progress. This would require more attention towards student support, especially financial support in order for students to fully complete their studies. Members discussed the role of continuation policies in individual departments.

Members agreed that direct admissions prevents students from having the opportunity for exploration. Direct admissions channel students through specific programs and students only take the required exploratory courses when it is too late in their academic career. A comment was raised that exploration and discovery is a core objective of the faculty.

Kramer requested members to contact her if they come up with other issues to address. Kramer is seeking broad input from the faculty and this is an important time to provide feedback.

6) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Kramer at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes by Grayson Court, Faculty Council Support Analyst, gcourt@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Kramer (Chair), Brock, Cunningham, Janssen, Deehr, Salehi-Esfahani, Taggart, Pengra

Ex-Officio Reps: Kollet, Chin Roemer, McNerney, Wensel

Guests: Janice DeCosmo (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs)

Absent: **Faculty:** Keil (sabbatical), Harrison, Hoff,

President's Designee: Ballinger

Ex-Officio Reps:

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Summary

1:30-3:00 pm

February 28, 2014

Gerberding 036

Old Non-Routine Business:

1. **History** - ([HIST-20131018A](#)) New minor in History of Empire and Colonialism.

Background: The History department is trying to better showcase their depth of comparative fields and is proposing four new minors for students to take.

Action Taken: 01/17/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending departmental approval of a change to a 2.0 cum GPA and 5 maximum credit overlap for all new history minors,. Suggestion to department to submit 1503's to include these restrictions in the existing history minors.

Update: History has agreed to the 2.0 cum GPA and the overlapping credit restriction. They will start 1503 paperwork for the existing minors once the new minors are approved.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

2. **History** - ([HIST-20131018B](#)) New minor in History of War and Society.

Background: The History department is trying to better showcase their depth of comparative fields and is proposing four new minors for students to take.

Action Taken: 01/17/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending departmental approval of a change to a 2.0 cum GPA and 5 maximum credit overlap for all new history minors,. Suggestion to department to submit 1503's to include these restrictions in the existing history minors.

Update: History has agreed to the 2.0 cum GPA and the overlapping credit restriction. They will start 1503 paperwork for the existing minors once the new minors are approved.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

3. **History** - ([HIST-20131018C](#)) New minor in History of Religion and Society.

Background: The History department is trying to better showcase their depth of comparative fields and is proposing four new minors for students to take.

Action Taken: 01/17/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending departmental approval of a change to a 2.0 cum GPA and 5 maximum credit overlap for all new history minors,. Suggestion to department to submit 1503's to include these restrictions in the existing history minors.

Update: History has agreed to the 2.0 cum GPA and the overlapping credit restriction. They will start 1503 paperwork for the existing minors once the new minors are approved.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2014

4. **History** - ([HIST-20131018D](#)) New minor in History of Race, Gender, and Power.

Background: The History department is trying to better showcase their depth of comparative fields and is proposing four new minors for students to take.

Action Taken: 01/17/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending departmental approval of a change to a 2.0 cum GPA and 5 maximum credit overlap for all new history minors,. Suggestion to department to submit 1503's to include these restrictions in the existing history minors.

Update: History has agreed to the 2.0 cum GPA and the overlapping credit restriction. They will start 1503 paperwork for the existing minors once the new minors are approved.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

New Non-Routine Business:

1. **Anthropology** - ([ANTH-20140125](#)) New option in Human Evolutionary Biology within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology..

Background: The Anthropology department would like to add a fourth option in Human Evolutionary Biology that would provide students with a strong foundation in basic science, with an integrative perspective on the human organism, making them well-prepared to pursue careers in health or biological sciences.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

New Routine Business:

1. **Anthropology** - ([ANTH-20131018](#)) Revised program requirements for the option in Archaeological Sciences within the Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology.

Background: The Anthropology department would like to add additional courses to the list of the approved core which will reduce the bottleneck for students pursuing the option. In addition the have recently split ANTH 482 into ANTH 482/486 and need to update the program requirements to reflect that.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

2. **School of Art** - ([DESIGN-20131210A](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Industrial Design.

Background: The School of Art is adding two classes to the Industrial Design major increasing it to 103 credits. They are also requesting to reformat the way the courses required for the major are displayed in the catalog. Compare their suggested layout with the proposed layout at the end of the pdf. The "current" layout was structured to display the commonalities between the majors in the Bachelor of Design degree.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Hold for clarity on catalog copy vs School website requirements.

NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2014

3. **School of Art** - ([DESIGN-20131210B](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Visual Communication Design.

Background: The School of Art is requesting to reformat the why the courses required for the major are displayed in the catalog. Compare their suggested layout with the proposed layout at the end of the pdf. The "current" layout was structured to display the commonalities between the majors in the Bachelor of Design degree.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Hold for clarity on catalog copy vs School website requirements.

4. **School of Art** - ([DESIGN-20131210C](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Design degree in Interaction Design.

Background: The School of Art is requesting to reformat the why the courses required for the major are displayed in the catalog. Compare their suggested layout with the proposed layout at the end of the pdf. The "current" layout was structured to display the commonalities between the majors in the Bachelor of Design degree.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 - Hold for clarity on catalog copy vs School website requirements.

5. **Economics** - ([ECON-20140124](#)) Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Economics.

Background: The Economics department is adding two additional courses to their specified list of Theory and Methods courses.

Action Taken: 02/28/2014 -Approve and forward to FCAS.

Note: ECON 484 is an approved course and ECON 405 is set to be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on 3/18/2014.

NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2014