

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS
FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010
224 MARY GATES HALL

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Chair's Report
2. Approval of the Minutes of February 5, 2010
3. SCAP Report (Brad Holt)
 - Consent agenda (routine)
 - Non-routine actions
4. Admission and Graduation Subcommittee Report (Susanna Cunningham)
5. Metrics Used to Assess Special Admit Students (Philip Ballinger)
6. Potential Department Restrictions on Admission to Majors (Patricia Kramer)
7. Adjourn

Call to Order

Chair Schaufelberger called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from the February 5, 2010 meeting

The minutes of the February 5, 2010 meeting were approved.

Reports & Business Items

1. Chair's Report (John Schaufelberger)

Chair Schaufelberger shared that the Class B legislation that the Council worked on would be voted on at the next Faculty Senate meeting and expected that it would be approved.

2. SCAP Report (Brad Holt)

A. Holt introduced the Consent Agenda and removed Statistics from the Consent Agenda.

New Routine Business

- a. **Communication** - (COM-20090610) Change program requirement for the option in Journalism with in the Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication.
- b. **Foster School of Business/Accounting** – (BUS-20100114) Change program requirements for the option in Accounting with in the Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration degree.

- c. **Laboratory Medicine** – (LABM-20091229) Change program requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology.
- d. **Environmental and Occupational Health** – (ENVH-20100104) Change program requirements for the minor in Environmental Health.

Approved

B. Old Non-Routine Business

- a. **Biology** (BIOL-20091217) New minor in Paleobiology.
SCAP recommended approval and FCAS approved

Approved

C. New Routine Business

- a. **Statistics** – (STAT-20100107) Change admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics and change program requirements for the minor in Statistics.

Holt reported that SCAP is of the opinion that if a department is going to have a GPA requirement, they must have a continuation policy. SCAP asked Statistics for a continuation policy and received one. However, SCAP is of the opinion that it wasn't good enough. This proposal was originally forwarded to FCAS from SCAP under the assumption that the continuation policy proposed would be good enough. The Council also discussed the proposed change dropping Math 124 and 125 as requirements, while Math 126 would still be required. There was some concern that Statistics was simply doing this to make the minor requirement look smaller than it is in reality since Math 124 and 125 are prerequisites for 126. Corbett pointed out that students can place into Math 126 if they do well enough on the AP exam. The Council discussed problems with the proposed continuation policy. It did not address what would happen if a student had below a 2.5, if a student received a 2.0 in a class, and how many times that student could take the course. The Council sent the proposal back to SCAP.

Sent back to SCAP

3. Admission and Graduation Subcommittee Report (Susanna Cunningham)

A. Item 1- Academic English Program (AEP)

- a. The subcommittee approved an addition to the AEP policy to be effective Autumn 2010. It will change it so the students may repeat an English 101, 102, 103, or 104 course once. If the student fails the course a second time, a hold will be placed on the student's registration and the student will do the following:

- i. Take an approved standardized test that places them into the next level of AEP or satisfies the requirement completely;
- ii. Successfully complete the Intensive English Program (IEP);
- iii. Stop out for a quarter and take the AEP evaluation exam after a time away. They may then take an AEP test that will place them into the next level or allow them to satisfy the requirement entirely.

This change was prompted by the fact that some students skipped the class regularly and retook the class multiple times. The Council felt comfortable that a student attending the courses would pass.

Approved

B. Item 2- Advanced Placement Exams and Admissions

- a. The subcommittee approved the policy that credit for Advanced Placement (AP) test taken by students after leaving high school should not be allowed. The subcommittee endorsed the language that has already been used by the Admissions Office on its website regarding AP exams. The current language posted by the Admissions Office is as follows:

AP scores maybe submitted only for exams taken while in high school. The UW will not accept scores for exams taken after leaving high school.

The Council discussed the statement and reasons for the policy. Some saw the reason for the policy being to prevent an artificial way of gaining credits. Ballinger explained the situation that brought this issue to the forefront. A student applied to UW that was core deficient in English. The student is no longer in high school and is trying to have the AP exam replace the English requirement. The College Board, which implements the AP exam, does not have a policy on this matter. It doesn't come up very often and it is up to the institution. UW did not have a policy. Ballinger pointed out that he could not find a school that would accept this. As far as admissions are concerned, AP exams have nothing to do with requirements or admission requirements. AP exams are not considered in admissions. The Council discussed many different aspects of the AP and original intentions. Schaufelberger redirected the conversation and reminded the Council that the issue was not about whether or not UW will accept AP test credit, but whether or not UW admissions will let it replace a core entrance requirement. Cunningham agreed to withdraw the proposal and to resubmit revised language at the next FCAS meeting.

4. Metrics Used to Assess Special Admit Students (Philip Ballinger)

Ballenger gave presentation on Special Admits. Special Admits are one of the last places the University still used the Admission Index (AI), and Special Admits have AIs below 28, which means that have less than an 80% chance of earning a 2.0 at the end of their

Freshman year. A vast majority of Special Admit Freshman are Student Athletes. The number of Special Admits for Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) is 30 and has been for a long time. There have been requests to increase this number, but it has not been approved.

For the last admissions cycle in 2009, there were 21,000 applicants. 789 had AIs below 28 and 23 were offered admission. Most of them were athletes. Ballinger also explained that there are also "Priority Admits" that are not competitive, but meet the admissions standards. An AI of 28 is required for Priority Admits, which is the State standard. There are roughly 70 priority admits per year. For the incoming class of 2009, the AI average was roughly 70, the mean GPA was between 3.56 and 3.9, and an SAT average of 1200.

Ballinger explained that transfers are different. Admissions looks only at the college GPA and applicants with GPA below 2.3 would be Special Admits if admitted. In 2009, 185 applied and 14 were admitted. The total of 30 Special Admits for ICA is for the combined total included Freshman and transfers. Schaufelberger asked about Special Admits graduating. Ballinger had recently gives a report on that matter to the Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics (ACIA). Ballinger reported that Special Admits are doing well, but the Priority Admits with AIs just above those of Special Admits are not doing as well because they receive less help.

5. Potential Department Restrictions on Admission to Majors (Patricia Kramer)

Kramer shared with the Council what Anthropology would like to do regarding admissions. Anthropology is currently an open major and would like to become a closed major and not admit any new students to the major. Schaufelberger recommended that changing to a competitive major would be a better direction. Kramer explained that Anthropology would like to change to being a closed major now and then work on a 1503 to make it a competitive major. The Council felt that the right way to go about it would be to submit a 1503 to make the major competitive. Holt mentioned that Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) would change the incentives for Anthropology. Holt said there are three types of admission for majors: 1) open, 2) minimum requirement, and 3) competitive.

Kramer brought up two additional issues. The first is whether or not tracks can be competitive. Jennifer Payne had previously told her no, but that an option can be. Somebody had told Anthropology that they could. Corbett explained that it was a confusion mixing graduate and undergraduate terms. The second issue that Kramer brought up was whether or not there were guidelines regarding diversity for competitive majors. The short answer was no as long as it did not ask about race, ethnicity, gender, or age.

Kramer shared how Anthropology got to this point. Four years ago they decided they needed more majors, and in 18 months the number increased from 350 to 600. Medical Anthropology and Global Health are partially responsible for the increase. Holt brought up how this raises another question that FCAS or the Provost should look at, and that is how more and more majors are becoming competitive. Schaufelberger advised that Anthropology submit a 1503 if they want competitive admissions because of more applicants and set dates to apply.

Adjournment

Chair Schaufelberger adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Minutes by Alex Bolton
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Present: **Faculty:** Schaufelberger (Chair), Cunningham, Holman, Holt, Keil, Kramer, Pengra, Stroup, Taggart
President's Designee: Mildon
Ex-Officio Reps: Fugate, Padvorac, Jespersen
Regularly Invited Guests: Ballinger, Corbett, **Sahr**, Sayrs

Absent: **Faculty:** Almgren
Ex Officio Rep: Blume, Allen, Haag Day
Regularly Invited Guests: Winslow, Wiegand