

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
March 9, 2012
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
Gerberding Hall 142

Meeting Synopsis:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Chair's Report
- 3) Approval of the Minutes of February 24, 2012
- 4) SCAP Report (Brad Holt)
 - Consent agenda (routine actions)
 - Non-routine actions
- 5) Satisfactory Progress Policy (Deborah Wiegand)
- 6) Adjournment

1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair John Schaufelberger.

2) Chair's Report

Nana Lowell, Director of the Office of Educational Assessment, informed Schaufelberger of a loss of funding for course evaluations. Background was given that the past income stream used to subsidize past evaluations is now gone. Council members considered potential funding streams from the Student Technology Fee, or from another mode. Questions followed what action the Council could take and ramifications of no longer having such evaluations. Suggestions made were that Ed Taylor, from Undergraduate Affairs, approach the Board of Deans or that FCAS inform the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting (SCPB) of the need to identify funding to continue supporting the student course evaluations. Even though the Law School and OEA are piloting electronic evaluations, additional funding is needed to support the course evaluations that are essential if the university is to maintain its regional accreditation.

Don Janssen made a motion that FCAS Chair John Schaufelberger convey to the SCPB that continuation of course evaluations in some form is essential for continued evaluation of academic standards at the University. **The motion carried.**

3) Approval of the Minutes of February 24, 2012.

The minutes from the February 24, 2012 meeting were approved with modifications.

4) SCAP Report (Brad Holt)

- Consent Agenda

1. **Computer Science and Engineering - (CSE-20110530)** Revised admission and program requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering degree.

Background: The CSE department is proposing to consolidate its Hardware and Software tracks which will simplify the accounting of credits in the different categories, make the CompE and CS degrees more comparable in requirements and electives, better support dual majors, and meet ABET requirements. Summary: reduce the number of required courses and increase the number of advanced electives. They are also correcting an error in the Upper Division admission requirements from 2003 and adding the minimum grade requirements that are currently coded into DARS based on historical requirements.

SCAP Action Taken: 10/14/2011 – Approve and forward to FCAS for discussion on whether Faculty Code as currently written would require a RCEP to consolidate these tracks as they are specified in the General Catalog, but are not transcriptable.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 – RCEP not required. Approve and forward to FCAS.

2. **English - (ENGL-20120117)** Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

Justification: The department is going to refocus their approved core course list so that the additional credits can be moved to the approved general English electives list. This will provide more flexibility to the students completing the major. Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

3. **Slavic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - (SLAVIC-20120202A)** Revised program requirements for the minor in Slavic Languages.

Justification: The department is updating the requirements of the minor to reflect new course additions, new principle language option, removal of some previously approved electives, and clarifying the first 5 quarters of the principle language can be counted towards the minor credits just as they do in the EELLC major.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

4. **Slavic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - (SLAVIC-20120202B)** Revised program requirements for the minor in Russian Literature/Slavic Literature.

Justification: The department is updating the requirements of the minor to reflect new course additions, removal of some previously approved electives, and clarifying the only 5 credits of RUSS 110 or RUS 120 may count towards the minor credits.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

5. **Slavic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - (SLAVIC-20120202C)** Revised program requirements for major in Eastern European Language, Literature, and Culture.

Justification: The department is updating the requirements of the major to reflect new course additions, new principle language option, and the removal of some previously approved electives

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

6. **Slavic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - (SLAVIC-20120202D)** Revised program requirements for the major in Russian Language, Literature, and Culture.

Justification: The department is updating the requirements of the major to reflect new course additions, removal of some previously approved electives, and clarifying the only 5 credits of RUSS 110 or RUS 120 may count towards the minor credits.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

7. **Slavic Languages, Literatures, and Cultures - (SLAVIC-20120202E)** Revised program requirements for the minor in Russian Language.

Justification: The department is updating the requirements of the minor to reflect new course additions and the removal of some previously approved electives.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

Consent agenda was approved.

- Non-routine actions

1. **Mechanical Engineering - (ME-20111206)** Create a new option in Nanoscience and Molecular Engineering within the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree; revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree and revised program requirements for the option in Mechatronics within the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree.

Background: The department wants to create a new option in NME, following suit with the other ENGR departments on campus. They also want to update their admission catalog copy to include Direct Freshman Admissions; add admission to the NME option; and remove HCDE 231 as an admissions requirement. Finally they want to change one of the required courses for the Mechatronics options from M E 498 to M E 494.

SCAP Action Taken: 01/06/2012 – Pending approval. SCAP wants to see a departmental continuation policy before sending to FCAS. 01/10/2012 update: Department submitted continuation policy, SCAP requested clarification on section 4. Waiting for a response.

SCAP Action Taken: 03/02/2012 – Post Tri-Campus review (no comments posted). Approve and forward to FCAS.

SCAP moved to approve. **The motion carried.**

Other Topics: Majors and Options

Holt mentioned that SCAP also discussed issues regarding options and majors.

- Majors: No current limitations on how many majors students may declare, outside those of coding on transcripts. SCAP believed that this should be left as is, allowing for students to pursue as many majors as they desire, however would be subject to the continuation policy.
- Options: No current limitations on number of options students may declare. SCAP recommended leaving language as it is, but allowing departments the ability to restrict students to a single option if they prefer. This wording would be drafted up on FCAS policy portion of the website “Departments have the ability to restrict students to a single option if they so choose.”

SCAP also recommended that FCAS adopt a statement that “Options within a major must be distinct,” to anticipate any potential issues with option creation in the future. Concerns were raised how to qualify a “distinct” policy; and different ways to measure distinct options were debated. SCAP has received increasing moves towards options, and that tracks are another viable option. Discussion followed on the proliferation of degrees, options and tracks at the University, and the impact of requiring the RCEP process for removal of an option. Concern was

expressed on how to divulge such policy, however it was noted that this can be done by the Office of the Registrar, as they approve all options.

There was a motion to adopt the following statements on FCAS's website regarding policy on options: **"Options must be distinct; Departments may limit the number of options in which a student may enroll."**

The motion carried.

Open Admissions Minors

Concern has come forth as Bothell and Tacoma have competitive admissions for minors, whereas the University of Washington Seattle does not. The difference in such policies is currently being investigated.

Undergraduate Certificates

Undergraduate Certificates are not available at the Undergraduate level. Professional and Continuing Education (PCE) is planning on offering certificates for UW classes. SCAP felt that policy should be consistent, which would require to change the wording on policy. Virjean Edwards discussed the potential issues which may come forth as there such a certificate may be on the transcript however, students may not receive a certificate for this. The Council debated the value of having the certificate noted on the transcript. Concern was raised on the ability of students to get certificates through the PCE, through the continuing education program and the structure and approval process regarding PCE courses. It was clarified that certificates are not granted on taking a course but rather how the course was registered for. Further questions asked were whether course fees were different.

Schaufelberger provided an overview of the structure of PCE programs, and suggested that action be taken in the case that such courses will be offered during the duration of the year and not just the summer. The topic was left open for later discussion.

5) Satisfactory Progress Policy (Deborah Wiegand)

Debbie Wiegand presented a report on the work of the implementation group for the satisfactory progress policy passed by FCAS on January 27, 2012. The group has identified 7 issue areas to examine: clarifications of policy, operational issues, messaging to the student body about policy, monitoring and notifications about status to individual students, intersections with other policies, exceptions and petitions, and long range implications. Wiegand noted that quarters in which a student withdrew from the University or enrolled as a non-matriculated student will not count against the student's number of quarters. Coop and internship credits were also discussed.

Wiegand provided data, using three years of past graduates, on how this would affect students by comparing the new policy (quarter and credit limits) with the old policy (solely credit limit). Under the new policy, fewer students would fall outside the limits than under current policy. Schaufelberger noted three goals from this new policy: a) clarify expectations to freshmen; b) to not "push out" students who arrive with many credits; c) benefits by institution by not having 8-9 year students.'

6) Good of the Order

Schaufelberger requested the Council's advice regarding the Reorganization, Consolidation, or Elimination of Programs (RCEP) process. Currently it would appear that any change in a Degree, Major, Minor or Option (which are transcriptable) would trigger an RCEP. He asked if not requiring an RCEP for a removal of a track or something untranscriptable would be a reasonable approach; the Council agreed. Questions arose why anything below Majors triggers an RCEP, and it was noted that students were concerned about decision-making without RCEP. It was suggested to investigate if any non-transcriptable programs affect particular faculty members.

7) Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m. by Chair Schaufelberger.

Minutes by Jay Freistadt, Faculty Council Support Analyst. jayf@u.washington.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Schaufelberger (Chair), Janssen, Kramer, Taggart, Holt, Cunningham, Keil, Pengra
 President's Designee: Ballinger
 Ex-Officio Reps: Williams, Fugate
 Guests: Sahr, Corbett

Absent: **Faculty:** Holman, Stroup, Almgren
 Ex-Officio Reps: Smith, Wensel