

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

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Call to Order
  2. Review of the Minutes from October 26, 2012
  3. SCAP Report
    - a. Consent agenda (routine actions)
    - b. Non-routine actions
  4. Overview of Freshmen Admissions – Philip Ballinger
  5. Section Level Course Information for MyPlan – Deborah Wiegand
  6. Chair’s Report
  7. Adjourn
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**1) Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Chair George Dillon.

**2) Review of the Minutes from October 26, 2012**

Minutes from the October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as revised.

**3) SCAP Report**

- a. Consent agenda (routine actions)

The Civil and Environmental Engineering curriculum proposal was motioned to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

1. **English - (ENGL-20121018)** Revised program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

Background: The English department is making changes to the titles of the categories in the English Core. No changes in course requirements.

**SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.**

2. **Slavic Languages and Literatures - (RUSS-20120919)** Revised program requirements for the minor in Russian Language. .

Background: The Slavic L&L department wants to allow RUSS 450 to satisfy the language proficiency requirement and count towards the 25 credits required for the minor.

**SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.**

3. **Civil and Environmental Engineering - (CEE-20121012)** Revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering degree.

Background: The CEE department is following the COE's lead and will offer Direct Freshman and Early Admission pathways.

**SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.**

**There was a motion for approval of the remaining three items. The Consent Agenda Carried.**

b. Non-routine actions

1. **Civil and Environmental Engineering - (CEE-20121015)** Major revisions to the Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering degree.

Background: The CEE department is making major revisions to their junior year courses as well as additional changes to the credits for the Capstone sequence, the upper-division electives, and replacing CEE 363 with any W or C credits. \*\* They have already implemented these changes. \*\*

SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

Discussion followed on the Civil and Environmental Engineering curricula revisions. Don Janssen, who is part of this department, handed out comparisons of course descriptions and some of the course syllabi within this proposal.

Janssen expressed concern that new courses have an increased number of credits, but some of them offer little difference in course descriptions or content covered within schedules compared to previously existing courses. He also expressed concerns over the intended increased credit for capstone courses with no other justification provided. These credit adjustments could be a response to students expressing higher effort (hours per credit) for such courses, however this data was not available. The University Curriculum Committee (UCC) does not always have historical insight on course similarities for proposed new courses, which are visible when reviewing course changes.

Concerns arose that other programs could “change” courses through a similar route, and the question was posed where checks and balances occur. Curricula for proposed courses are reviewed by the department or college, not by FCAS or the UCC. Members expressed concern that this mechanism could be used to increase credits in courses without submitting a course change form. The possibility of inclusion a question such as “Is this new course related to a previously offered course?” on a New Course Application form was considered.

The motion was made for FCAS to return this proposal to the department and request the department’s rationale for these changes.

**The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.**

2. **Jackson School - (JSIS-20120323)** New minor in Middle East Studies.

Background: The Jackson School is proposing to offer a minor in Middle East Studies to offset the impending elimination of the Middle East track within major offered by the school. There is strong student interest in this field and resources to sustain an minor but not to continue offering the track within the International Studies major.

SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

**There was a motion for approval. The Motion Carried by unanimous vote.**

3. **Community, Environment, and Planning - (CEP-20120508)** Revised admission and program requirements and a new continuation policy for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Community, Environment, and Planning.

Background: The CEP students, faculty, and staff have unanimously agreed to make changes to the major which all already practiced internally, but need to be made official. They are setting a minimum GPA for admissions, make their unofficial continuation policy official, and attaching credits to Leadership Retreat, Practicum, and Capstone requirements (all of which were required before, just not in the catalog).

SCAP Action Taken: 10/05/2012 - PENDING. Need justification and clarification on the following:

a. Why a 2.5 cumulative GPA for students opting for graded courses?

- b. Clarify when students are eligible to apply? Must have 90 credits or making satisfactory progress towards junior status.
- c. Continuation policy needs to include students with multiple NC grades, not just sub 2.0 grades.

SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - Dr. Christopher Campbell attending at 1:30 to discuss changes. Dr. Campbell going to present SCAP's recommendations of a minimum grade of 2.0 in each Core CEP course, a minimum cumulative 2.00 GPA in Methods and Diversity courses, and a minimum cumulative 2.00 GPA for all courses applied to the major. Will send revisions prior to FCAS. Recommend approve and forward to FCAS if the above recommendations are approved by CEP.

SCAP met with Community, Environment and Planning (CEP) program, to inform that it would not accept a 2.5 cumulative GPA. CEP was concerned that decreasing the cumulative GPA to 2.0 would be lowering their standards, and are discussing this within the program. No vote was necessary for this item.

#### **4. Integrated Sciences - (INTSCI-20110401R) New Bachelor of Science degree in Integrated Sciences.**

Background: The Integrated Sciences program has been working out the program details and administrative responsibility between the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of the Environment for the past year. They have finalized their discussions and are ready to move forward with the program approval.

Action Taken: 10/19/2012 - Approve and forward to FCAS pending change grade requirements from a minimum grade of 2.0 in each course to 1) a cumulative 2.0 GPA in each basic math and science sequence and 2) a cumulative 2.0 GPA in all courses applied to the disciplinary track. (INTSCI may ask for a cumulative 2.0 GPA in the INTSCI foundation courses, to go along with the above grade requirements). Ron Irving says that the INTSCI committee is meeting this week in anticipation of questions and will reply by Thursday at the latest.

Information questions to ask not tied to moving proposal forward at this time:

- 1) When will students choose a disciplinary track?
- 2) Has INTSCI committee discussed registration priority in courses required in the disciplinary tracks with the departments offering the courses?

SCAP Action Taken: 11/02/2012 - SCAP recommends forward to FCAS for approval if INTSCI will modify 1503 to request a BA instead of a BS.

With the Integrated Sciences, SCAP contacted Arts & Sciences to notify that it would approve degree as a Bachelor of Arts, but not a Bachelor of Science. SCAP also requested for a minimum number of upper division credits within this degree. After a response, SCAP will return this item to FCAS. No vote was necessary for this item.

#### **4) Overview of Freshmen Admissions – Philip Ballinger**

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment and Director of Admissions Philip Ballinger gave a presentation on the 2012-13 incoming undergraduate students at the UW's Seattle campus.

Within the freshman class, UW has seen an increase in applications, and the size of the total class, with the target being admission of 6,000, (4,000 residents and 2,000 non-residents). The admit rate for students has also increased for the past two years despite increased applications, almost solely due to domestic growth and with a nearly 67% admission rate for Washington resident applicants.

Underrepresented minority proportion of the freshmen class is very slightly down, from 12.08 to 11.2 %, however this demographic in transfer students has risen, raising this proportion overall. Men and women enrollment rates have been fairly stable across years, mirroring a national trend. Academic profiles for freshmen have increased, with GPAs being consistent with last year, however test scores have increased, potentially driven by high math scores from international students, particularly from

China and Korea. 28% of the incoming freshmen would be the first in their families to get Bachelor degrees.

Origin of members of the freshman class was then described. The number of international students is larger than non-resident domestic students, despite having a lower admit rate. Noting that 62% of UW applicants are non-residents, Ballinger mentioned that a guiding principal in admissions is to balance domestic non-residents and international students' numbers.

Incoming transfer students were discussed, highlighting that the admit rate is much greater for community colleges in the state of Washington, greater than transfers from 4 year or other two year schools. This is due to a proportionality agreement, which will be ceased due to freshmen class growth which can no longer be limited by such an agreement, and stagnant numbers of students at community colleges.

Council members expressed curiosity on the mid-50% range GPA for transfers, which was not available immediately but could be gathered. Though UW tracks family income and the family size through the FAFSA, this data is not available in the fall. Interest was expressed in the way that socio economic status of students predicts the number of admitted students who enroll, or yield rate. Ballinger informed that enrollment is often driven by access to student need grants. Concern was expressed on the decrease in access to UW for middle class applicants, and that UW is becoming non-competitive for both out of state and in-state students due to tuition rates and lack of scholarships.

Further discussion on these statistics could take place in the Admissions and Graduations Subcommittee. Ballinger offered for a consultant analyzing this data to give a presentation in a future FCAS meeting.

#### **5) Section Level Course Information for MyPlan – Deborah Wiegand**

Deborah Wiegand provided a handout in preparation for the next FCAS meeting. She informed that the MyPlan academic planning tool is moving to the next step of development. This stage will make course section level information (time schedule, and otherwise) available. Question is what resources should be provided to students to do this section level planning. Conversations have been held with students and advisors, and Wiegand requested faculty feedback. This discussed at the next FCAS meeting.

#### **6) Chair's Report**

Dillon provided updates on the Online Undergraduate Degree Completion initiative, after having met with the ad hoc task force, and watching a presentation at the Senate Executive Committee. The following concerns have been expressed:

- Whether evening degree students are considered "matriculated" students, which would require Class B Legislation to define the rights and responsibilities of such students.
- How much oversight faculty have on the evening degree program.
- What criteria will be used to admit students, and what faculty involvement is in this process. The Evening Degree's website states that Evening Degree applicants go through a comprehensive review in language exactly like that used for describing admission to the daytime programs, but Professional and Continuing Education actually admits all applicants who satisfy the College

Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) and does not do the kind of comprehensive review described on the webpage. It was suggested that the Evening Degree update its website to reflect its current admissions process and policy.

- Accountability and assessment within the program, as departments assess their own programs. There is need to establish a mechanism to evaluate outcomes, and develop criteria to evaluate the program after a five year period as mandated by the residency requirement. One suggestion had been made for the Graduate School to review such a program.

Discussion followed on a Continuation Policy for such students, should the initiative not be re-approved, and the precedent of the Graduate School in reviewing undergraduate programs.

ASUW representative Michael Kutz provided a brief update on the Student Diversity Requirement task force. He noted that the FCMA member had been debriefed, and currently they are developing learning goals, discussing with schools that already have such requirements. It was recommended to look at peer universities for UW's policies, and ascertain how to make such credits transferrable.

### 7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m. by Chair Dillon.

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Minutes by Jay Freistadt, Faculty Council Support Analyst. [jayf@u.washington.edu](mailto:jayf@u.washington.edu)

**Present:**           **Faculty:** Dillon (Chair), Janssen, Holt, Taggart, Almgren, Melin, Kramer, Stroup  
**President's Designee:** Ballinger  
**Ex-Officio Reps:** Fugate, Kutz, Wensel, Randall, Anderson  
**Guests:** Sahr, Edwards, Corbett, Kollet

**Absent:**           **Faculty:** Cunningham, Pengra, Keil  
**Ex-Officio Reps:** Anderson