

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards
February 21, 2014, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm
Gerberding 142

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order
 2. Review of the Minutes from February 7, 2014
 3. SCAP Report
 4. ASUW Resolution 14: Supporting Student Review of Academic Program and Requirement Changes
 5. Chair's Report
 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 7, 2014

The minutes from February 7, 2014 were approved as amended.

3) SCAP Report [Exhibit A]

Old Non-Routine Business

#1: Integrated Social Sciences - (ISS-20131008) New online Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Social Sciences.

The proposal completed its tri-campus review and received numerous comments. Taggart felt that the responses were thoughtful and believes it is time to move forward. Kramer mentioned that ISS made an addition to the document earlier today to include a statement that it only accepts program-specific students. This had been previously discussed as necessary but had been forgotten when the final document was assembled. Kramer noted that if the proposal is approved it will be reviewed by the Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy (FCTCP) next week. The majority of comments addressed the lack of quantitative coursework required to complete the major. Taggart clarified there are several courses offered within the program but they are not required for graduation. One comment from the tri-campus review asked about library services provided to the online students. A comment was raised that the ISS program has funds for an additional librarian dedicated specifically to the ISS degree.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

Kramer clarified that FCTCP's role is to review whether the approval process was followed appropriately. This should not be much of a concern since there has been so much work done already to approve the degree. Kramer will be attending the upcoming FCTCP meeting to address any outstanding concerns and expects that the proposal will be approved. Kramer reiterated the reason to approve this quickly is to

ensure ISS can officially advertise the program in order to ensure sufficient enrollment next academic year.

#2: Information School - (INFO-20131205) New option in Information Assurance and Cybersecurity within the Bachelor of Science degree in Informatics.

During the tri-campus review there was one question that asked for additional clarification which did not require any changes to the proposal.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

#3: Electrical Engineering - (EE-20131203) Revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree.

The Electrical Engineering department is changing its upper-division admissions requirements to allow students to apply earlier which makes its early admissions process obsolete. Students would be able to apply for Direct Freshman admission or upper division admission which should cause less confusion for students. FCAS had originally requested information on the impact to transfer students and if the unit has a specific policy on transfer admissions. There is no official policy, just a “rule of thumb”, in determining the proportion of transfer student admissions. Discussion ensued. A comment was raised that other departments like Bioengineering have high Direct Freshmen admits between 20-35%. Kramer commented that there are many questions associated with this issue and how it impacts admissions and the student body. Kramer anticipates this issue will be a major focus of future council discussions.

Kramer reported that she has been invited to be part of another subcommittee on the Enrollment Task Force that will specifically review direct admissions. Kramer mentioned she will be discussing this with faculty leadership and asked members if there are any issues to pass on to the task force. Discussion ensued. Several items were suggested including:

- To what extent are community colleges involved in the conversation?
- Identify broader university goals, intentions and motivations for using Direct Admissions (attracting good freshmen, connection with activity-based budgeting, etc.)
- Is there data to back up the rationale for moving to Direct Admissions?
- Is there data that demonstrates the impact on programs?
- How do direct-admit students perform against their peers?
- How does direct admission into programs at UW-Seattle impact the growth of programs at UW – Bothell/Tacoma?
- How does Direct Admissions impact cohort cohesiveness?

Discussion ensued about the role of direct admissions, how departments have slowly incorporated the practice over time and the role of community colleges.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

#4: Architecture - (ARCH-20140121) New Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture

The Architecture department is expanding and renaming the existing BA in Architectural Studies to a BA in Architectural Design which is a more appropriate name based on the industry. Architecture is also creating a non-studio based major in Architecture to accommodate more students, especially those interested in double majors from a Humanities perspective. Although Architecture originally wanted to call the new major Architectures Studies (which is the name of the existing major, which is changing to Architectural Design), the department has agreed to name the new program BA in Architecture and is fine with changing the GPA requirements for courses applied to the major. Additionally, Architecture is fine with adding the following sentence from the Sophomore Admission language to the Upper Division Admission Requirements: "Admission decisions are based on applicant's academic performance and potential, extent and quality of relevant experience, and personal motivation." However, for the admissions requirements the department still wants students to take the year-long architectural history sequence for upper-division admission. Most transfer students will either take them as non-matriculated students or transfer as sophomores and take the courses so they can apply as juniors. Transfer students would be advised to apply during their sophomore year then take the required courses during their junior year. Alternatively, transfer students could take the prerequisites via PCE first before being admitted as juniors.

Discussion ensued about the term sophomore and the number of credits when applying to the program. Concern was raised that it appears the department is using different levels of credit to determine non-satisfactory progress for admittance into the program. For example, if a transfer student has 85 credits from a community college they can apply to the program since they are considered a sophomore. However, a student who has 91 credits is barred from admittance unless they took the prerequisite courses. Additional concern was raised that community colleges are not able to offer these prerequisite courses because they are 300-level classes. Discussion ensued if the department is referring to the actual number of incoming credits or the student's university career. Members expressed uncertainty about whether having 90 credits immediately cuts off a student's sophomore status. Discussion ensued about the department's practice in accepting transfer students. Concern was raised about the difficulty in comparing the difference between transfer students with the prerequisites and on-campus UW students when applying for admissions. SCAP will clarify this with Architecture. Kramer stated that the proposal will go through tri-campus review and come back to SCAP/FCAS, which will allow for further examination.

The proposal received unanimous approval.

4) ASUW Resolution 14: Supporting Student Review of Academic Program and Requirement Changes

Kramer discussed a resolution passed by ASUW sponsored by McNerney. The resolution asks to support a process that notifies students of changes to their programs by email at the same time faculty are notified during the tri-campus review period. ASUW believes that students have the right to comment on future changes to their programs, including changing program or admittance requirements, even if those students are not directly affected.

Kramer stated that FCAS values student feedback and invited McNerney to sit on SCAP to help review proposals. This would be an opportunity for McNerney to report back to ASUW on 1503 proposals and provide feedback during SCAP discussions. Discussion ensued. There are positives and negatives with sending emails to the entire student body to provide feedback on program proposals so this should be thoughtfully considered. McNerney explained that as a student focusing on two specific majors his knowledge is limited about the issues in other departments. For example, it would be hard to review

Architecture's 1503 and provide constructive feedback due to his limited understanding of how the department works. Alternatively, it would be more productive to have students within the department provide the necessary feedback who have more depth and knowledge of the program. McNerney hopes to be able to work with the Registrar's Office to develop a notification process. Discussion ensued about individual units and their internal notification process. A comment was raised that from personal experiences the process may be logistically challenging but any feedback from students are helpful. However, the process should occur organically and it is not codified to ensure this is happening in all departments. A comment was raised that the College of Engineering has a student representative who provides feedback on curriculum changes. Discussion moved to curriculum review at the departmental level. Depending on the department new curriculum may or may not receive full faculty review.

A comment was raised that it might be more appropriate for students to provide input at the individual college level rather than during the tri-campus review process. A suggestion was made that the 1503 forms could provide a section that requires departments to report if students provided input on the proposal. Discussion ensued. McNerney explained that the original intent of the resolution was to have notification emails sent out through departmental listserves to ensure that students have a greater voice and opportunity to comment on proposals. A comment was raised expressing concern that large emails might not be the best mechanism to provide feedback. Discussion ensued about who has access in reviewing 1503s. Anyone with a UW NetID has the capability to review and respond to 1503 proposals during the tri-campus review period, including students and staff.

A comment was made that students may be more effective at vetting and providing input earlier in the process before proposals are sent out to all three campuses. This is more of a timeline issue because the notification is so late in the process in order to be properly reviewed by students. Additionally, the intent of the tri-campus review process is to allow the same discipline on other campuses to review what is happening throughout the UW system, rather than critiquing and providing recommendations on proposals. Several suggestions were made to improve student feedback on curriculum changes in individual departments, including:

- Requiring departments to fill out 1503s explaining how the proposal was reviewed by students
- Allow SCAP members to follow up directly with departments to ensure that student concerns were adequately addressed
- ASUW could conduct a friendly outreach campaign to individual units encouraging them to consider student feedback when making curriculum changes
- During 10-year reviews a department could be asked how students are providing input on curricular review

McNerney stated that ASUW would like to have a written policy or description which describes this practice. Discussion ensued about ASUW representation across campus, students representing different majors and the need to create awareness of the issue. A comment was raised that the council could request a revision of the 1503 form.

5) Chair's Report

Progress has been slow with the online task force. Once there are substantive updates Kramer will add it as an agenda item for a future meeting.

Kramer asked members to send her questions/concerns that should be addressed at future meetings for the Enrollment Management Task Force.

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), Cunningham, Harrison, Hoff, Janssen, Deehr, Pengra, Salehi-Esfahani, Taggart
 President's Designee: Ballinger
 Ex-Officio Reps: Chin Roemer, McNerney, Wensel
 Guests: Matt Winslow (Acting Associate Registrar), Robert Corbett (Coordinator of New Programs), Emily Leggio (Senior Associate Director for Enrollment Policy)

Absent: **Faculty:** Brock, Keil (sabbatical)
 Ex-Officio Reps: Kollet

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) Summary

*** 1:00-2:30pm ***

February 14, 2014

Gerberding 036

Old Non-Routine Business:

1. **Integrated Social Sciences** - ([ISS-20131008](#)) New online Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Social Sciences. [ISS Chair Endorsements](#); [ISS SCAP Questions Responses](#); [ISS Demand Survey](#); [ISS Appendix D](#); [ISS Appendix E](#); [ISS proposal revised 12/03/13](#); [ISS Tri-Campus Comments and Responses](#).

Background: The College of Arts and Sciences in conjunction with PCE is proposing a new online major in Integrated Social Sciences.

Action Taken: 12/13/2013. Unanimous vote to forward to FCAS, 2-1 vote for sending with the support of SCAP. Suggest a 3 year pilot program over a 5 year.

Action Taken: 2/14/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS with clean catalog copy, approved course lists, and PCE approved now ISS course.

Update: Please note that the first 15 pages of the ISS 1503 is the clean catalog copy and lists of approved courses for the major.

2. **Information School** - ([INFO-20131205](#)) New option in Information Assurance and Cybersecurity within the Bachelor of Science degree in Informatics. .

Background: The I School, in conjunction with Bothell CSS and Tacoma T INST, is proposing a Tri-Campus option in Information Assurance and Cybersecurity. Each campus will be submitting independently and will administer the option independently, all three campuses are working together to offer classes that will apply to the options.

Action Taken: 12/13/2013 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

Action Taken: 2/14/2014 - Post Tri-Campus Review. Approve and forward to FCAS.

3. **Electrical Engineering** - ([EE-20131203](#)) Revised admission requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree.

Background: The Electrical Engineering department is changing its upper-division admissions requirements to allow students to apply earlier which makes its early admissions process obsolete. So students will now be able to apply for Direct Freshman admission or upper division admission which should cause less confusion for students.

Action Taken: 01/17/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

Update: FCAS asked for information on impact on transfer students. No impact, resident UW students would be impacted.

Action Taken: 01/31/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

Action Taken: 02/14/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: February 28, 2014

4. **Architecture** - ([ARCH-20140121](#)) New Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture ~~Architectural Studies~~.

Background: The Architecture department is expanding and renaming the existing BA in Architectural Studies to a BA in Architectural Design (which is a more appropriate name based on the industry). They are then creating this non-studio based major in Architectural Studies (yes same name as the current major - they understand the possible conflicts) to accommodate more students, especially those interested in double majors from a Humanities perspective.

Action Taken: 01/31/2014 - Hold for responses to questions.

Questions/proposed changes:

- 1) SCAP is concerned about reusing the Architectural Studies name for the proposed major – they feel that it could cause confusion for recent grads and employers and want to know if Architecture did an impact analysis or survey to check this out. Want to know if there is any other name that could work for the major?
- 2) Per the FCAS policy on Program-Based Grade Requirements (<http://depts.washington.edu/registra/curriculum/FCASpolicies.php>) a 2.5 cumulative GPA in all college coursework is above the permitted grade requirements without additional documentation of academic need. SCAP recommends a 2.0 cum GPA in courses applied to the major instead as it ensure a minimum level of competence in the courses for the major.
- 3) Per the FCAS policy (revised last month) on Guidelines for Admission to Requirements to Undergraduate Programs: SCAP recommends moving the three 300-level Architectural History courses out of the required courses for upper-division admission and placing them as major requirements. Architecture could still highly recommend that students take them prior to admission, but this provides flexibility to transfer students who are unable to take these courses at the community colleges (outside of paying extra for PCE coursework).
- 4) Add this sentence from the Sophomore Admission language to the Upper Division Admission Requirements: “Admission decisions are based on applicant’s academic performance and potential, extent and quality of relevant experience, and personal motivation.”

Updates: 1) The department has agreed to change the name to Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture; 2) They are fine with changing grade in new major only to a 2.0 cum GPA in courses applied to the major; 3) see below; 4) OK.

For the Admissions requirements - the department really wants students to take the year-long architectural history sequence for upper-division admission. Most transfer students either take them as non-matriculated or transfer as sophomores and take the courses so they can apply as juniors. What if there is a note that says students can either take as non-matric and apply for upper division, transfer after AA and take 3-years to complete, or transfer as a sophomore? Is there a Direct Transfer Admission into programs like there is for Freshman?

Action Taken: 02/14/2014 - Approve and forward to FCAS.

NEXT MEETING: February 28, 2014