

University of Washington
Faculty Council on Academic Standards

Friday, 2 February 2007
224 Mary Gates Hall

Stephen Keith, serving as chair in George Dillon's absence, called the meeting to order at 1:35.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Announcements
2. Approval of January 5th and January 19th Minutes
3. Admissions and Graduation Subcommittee Report
4. SCAP Report
5. New Business: Accepting General Education from WA Public Baccalaureates

1. Announcements

Keith said that Dillon would be absent from this meeting and had arranged prior to meeting to have Keith chair FCAS. (Keith currently chairs SCAP.)

2. Approval of January 5th and January 19th FCAS Minutes

Both sets of minutes were motioned, seconded and approved with minor edits.

3. Admissions and Graduation Subcommittee Report

Don Janssen said that a meeting with the admissions office with regard to students enrolled at the university as "special admits," – i.e. for students admitted on the basis exceptional athletic ability or other skills when otherwise their academic record might disqualify them – is being scheduled. The subject of the meeting will be how these students are faring so far in their university career.

4. SCAP Report

Keith reported that the following proposals had been recommended for approval by FCAS as non-routine items at the January 26, 2007 SCAP meeting. Since these proposals involve significant changes to the university curriculum—all three are new program offerings—the Council discussed the proposal.

1. **Social Work** – (SOCWF-20061212) New program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Community, Leadership, and Social Justice. **1:30 pm**

Background: The School of Social Work would like to introduce a liberal arts major in social work/social welfare. The major would not include social work practice or field work, but would be geared towards students who have a commitment to social justice and an interest in interdisciplinary study.

Justification: A survey of students in SOC WF 200 found interest in the proposed major. Graduates could go onto graduate work in social work or another discipline, or seek work in related areas.

Action Taken: 12/15/2006 – Send back for catalog revisions and answers to the following before next meeting.

- a. Will this new program be attracting new students to unfilled enrollment slots or will the enrollment be at the expense of spots currently used by BASW students.
- b. How will the new major be evaluated externally?
- c. Has the market demand for this kind of major been assessed? If so, how will CLSJ graduates meet these needs?"
- d. Is this major geared towards preparing Social Work researchers or Social/Community Activists?
- e. Revise catalog copy (provide example) to specify program requirements, not just list of course numbers and credits.

Jennifer to ask the above questions and to invite Social Work to the January 12th meeting to discuss their responses to and address the any additional information they feel is relevant.

Matt to research the precedent of a School/College outside of A&S offering a BA.

Action Taken: 1/26/2007 – Social Work representatives present. Non-Routine Approved. Forward to FCAS to review make Tri-Campus recommendation.

The Council briefly discussed the proposal from Social Work for a BA in Community, Leadership and Social Justice, since it had already been discussed at previous meeting. It was found that at the meeting with SCAP, representatives from the program had answered all of the questions from the Council satisfactorily. Janssen, however, noted that he was concerned about how students would select 15 credits of science electives, as the program's proposed catalog language has no criteria about how courses would be deemed satisfactory. The program was tabled until the next Council meeting, pending a revision to this part of the proposal.

2. **MEDEX** – (MEDEX-20061204) New program leading to a certificate in Oral Health within the existing major in MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Program. **2:00 pm**

Background: MEDEX Northwest has entered into a contract with the Alaska Native Tribal Consortia (ANTHC) to train Oral Health Therapists. Students will spend the first year in Anchorage under the supervision of MEDEX and the second year in tribal clinics under the supervision of practicing dentists in the clinics, MEDEX dental therapy faculty and ANTHC. However, the certificate will be awarded at the end of year one, the didactic year.

Justification: Alaska Natives living in remote areas have limited access to proper dental care. This program would enable tribal organizations to better serve their areas. Built off of an Alaska/New Zealand training program.

Action Taken: 1/12/2007 – Invite MEDEX and Graduate School representative to next FCAS meeting. Ask MEDEX to prepare answers to the following questions.

- a) Who are the Students
- b) Admissions requirements
- c) Prerequisite requirements
- d) Graduation requirements
- e) Will the certificate/program be accredited by ARCPA?
- f) What is the relationship to MEDEX Bachelor's program?
- g) What is the relationship between the certificate/program with the School of Dentistry?
- h) Do you have a Memorandum of Agreement – can you provide a copy?

Special Note: Inform MEDEX that they can still offer the classes to the currently enrolled students.

Action Taken: 1/26/2007 – MEDEX and Graduate School rep present. Confusion over over-sight and requirements solved. MEDEX will resubmit the form with the requested information.

The Council next discussed MEDEX's proposal to award a certificate to students who successfully complete the first year of an Oral Health outreach program that the program had contracted with Alaskan Native Health Tribal Consortium (ANTHC) to offer in that state. The certificate would be awarded after students completed the first year of didactic training, offered UW School of Dentistry faculty. They would not be enrolled in a UW degree program, but rather in set of courses, along the lines of MEDEX's existing Physician's Assistant certificate program. In general, the Council's policy is that certificates should not be awarded at the undergraduate level, but research into past meetings revealed that certificates could be awarded if the program was accredited by an outside agency or if there was some other review mechanism outside the UW. At the previous meeting of SCAP, MEDEX had provided extensive materials about their contract with ANTHC, how students are admitted to the program, and established the certificate would be necessary to students to pursue the second year of coursework.

Emily Leggio of the Admissions Office came to the meeting to explain how the students are admitted, verifying that they could not transfer to another degree program and were not classified as degree-seeking students. Janssen asked if the UW controlled the second year of training. Mariko Navin said that the second year is an externship with practicing dentists and other dental professionals. She noted that the purpose of the certificate was to show that they had completed the first year of the program. Keith said that the object of the program was to train professionals in native communities to help with preventative measures for oral health. (Alaskan Natives have significantly more cavities before the age of two than the general US population.) Janssen said that it appeared that the certificate came at the end of the UW's involvement in the program.

The Council also considered whether the program should be referred to the Registrar for Tri-Campus Review. Leggio noted that the students are not degree-seeking, so the program is not an academic one in the strict sense. Janssen suggested sending it over for review with a preamble explaining the necessary criteria for allowing certificates at the undergraduate level. Jay Johnson said he thought the review would be helpful, since it would also communicate the Council's policy on certificates. Laura Newell questioned whether FCAS could approve a program when the students are not officially admitted to the UW. Leggio said that MEDEX handled the actual admission process; in this case, the Admission Office serves as a record keeper.

Approval of the Oral Health certificate was tabled until the following FCAS meeting, with a request that SCAP consider these issues more in depth, along with following up with any further documentation from MEDEX.

3. **American Indian Studies** - (AIS-20060315) New Major in American Indian Studies (BA). POST TRI-CAMPUS REVIEW

Background/Justification: Department wants to add a Bachelors of Arts degree with a major in American Indian Studies rather than offer through General Studies.

Action Taken: 5/12/06 – Approved (Non-Routine) pending that all courses in documentation exist. To be sent to FCAS and Tri-Campus Review. Jennifer to check on courses.

Change wording in admissions #1 to say CUM GPA instead of University GPA.

Action Taken: 12/1/2006 – Approve with edits – forward to FCAS. (Last of courses approved 12/1/2006)

Action Taken: 1/26/2007 – Approved Tri-Campus comments and departmental response. Will forward to FCAS for final approval.

The Council then considered the proposal for a Bachelor of Arts in American Indian Studies. Keith noted that this would be the last time the Council would see the proposal before it went to the HECB for state approval. He said that he felt all the comments that were received during the Tri-Campus review had been answered by AIS faculty. Newell was concerned that students in the program would not be introduced to archaeological research about the first settling of the Americas. She said that this topic is addressed in some anthropology courses, but these are only suggested electives. Keith said he felt the major was more concerned with culture and society. Newell worried that not introducing students to the differences between mythological origins and archaeological record (or “deep chronology”) could be considered an attempt to exclude certain topics in a way that is ideological rather than academic. Debbie Wiegand said that this concern could be taken back to the department. Johnson asked about the purpose of a question about content, since the Council normally did not review a program's curriculum, but rather its structure. Wiegand said that faculty could be asked about how students would be introduced to the archaeological record. Richard Kiel said he thought the introductory course seemed to address this very topic. Navin said that, based on her experience, the issue often was whether minority or underrepresented peoples' experience is present in the curriculum at all. Corbett said that in some ways this conflict resembled one that might occur between two related but distinct disciplines and how they defined what general background students should have.

The Council tabled the proposal for the major until the following meeting, with a request that SCAP confer with faculty about how the archaeological record would be introduced to students.

5. New Business: Accepting General Education from WA Public Baccalaureates

Wiegand presented a proposal from the Interinstitutional Council of Academic Officers (ICAO), a subcommittee of the Council of Presidents (COP), to allow students who transfer from other public baccalaureates in Washington state to petition to have their completion of lower-division general education requirements (GERs) be accepted as completion of the UW's requirements. This policy, Wiegand noted, is in place already at the other five public baccalaureates. She presented a hand-out that showed that the UW's general education requirements consist of 57 credits in total, including 40 from three Areas of Knowledge (Natural World, Individuals and Societies, and Visual, Literary and Performing Arts), 12 credits of English composition and W-courses, and 5 credits of quantitative reasoning. Most colleges then apply more general education requirements. The proposal is student who transferred having completed another public baccalaureates lower-division GERs would be credited with having met the university's requirements with two provisos: 1) the student themselves would have to make the request; 2) colleges could still apply their further requirements.

Johnson asked about what was behind this effort. Janssen said that it was possible that an Area of Knowledge requirement would be eliminated for some students. Leggio noted that there is overlap between the UW's Areas of Knowledge and core areas at other institutions, although not exact. She said that there is more consistency with AA and AS degrees than with transfer between public baccalaureates. VLPA was a special concern, since it had been substituted for a humanities requirement after much discussion by the faculty. At the same time, it was noted that there would only be a small number of students who would request this, as about 500 students transfer between state public baccalaureates every year. Wiegand said also that it was important for the Council to respond on this issue in developing relationship with the Provost.

Janssen moved to approve policy and Johnson seconded. It was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 PM.

Minutes by Robert Corbett.

Notes on Acronyms and Organizations:

COP: Council of Presidents

ICAO: Interinstitutional Council of Academic Officers,

MEDEX:

Present:

Faculty members:

Dillon, G.; Keil, R.; Keith, S.; Janssen, D.; Johnson, J.; Newell, L.

Ex officio members:

McManaway, D. (for E. Shields); Navin, M.; Nobles, R.; Rickerson, C.

Guests:

Corbett, R.; Leggio, E.; Winslow, M.; Wiegand, D.

Absent:

Faculty members:

Brixey, S. (with excuse); Cunningham, S. (with excuse); Dillon, G. (with excuse)

Ex-Officio Members:

Taylor, E.; Nobles, R.