

**University of Washington**  
**Faculty Council on Academic Standards**

Friday, 27 October 2006  
224 Mary Gates Hall

Chair George Dillon called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

**Meeting Synopsis:**

1. Remonstrance Letter
2. Subcommittee Business: SCAP
3. Other Old Business: Summary and annual report for FCAS
4. New Business: Discussion of guidelines for interdisciplinary minors
5. Adjourn

**1. Remonstrance Letter**

George Dillon directed a letter to departments, which have required a minimum GPA for graduation higher than the University's minimum GPA. The committee suggested that the code be included which cited FCAS's responsibility to write regarding this problem. FCAS members also suggested that Ed Taylor, Ana Mari, and respective Dean be cc'ed on the letter. George Dillon will make changes and mail out.

**a. Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP): October 20, 2006**

**Old Business:**

1. **Philosophy** – (PHIL-20060504) New minor in Values in Society.

Background/Justification: To offer a minor through the Program on Values in Society, a UIF grant funded program whose projects include an undergraduate minor in ethics. This 25credit minor would give students the option building a general ethics regimen or specialization in almost any field by combining ethics courses with other courses of their choice.

Action Taken: 5/26/06 –Hold.

SCAP would like to invite Program on Values in Society Director to address committee in the fall to address questions about interdisciplinary vs. philosophy minor, and the potential for students to only have to take 2-3 classes outside of their major for this minor.

Action Taken: 10/6/2006 – Will attend October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss committee questions/concerns.

Action Taken: 10/20/2006 – Recommend FCAS review. Request discussion of the following items:

- Rules/Policies on creating Interdisciplinary minors
- Minors in majors, especially when a department houses an Interdisciplinary minor.
- What class distribution should be included in an Interdisciplinary minor?
- Should there be a required number of credits at the 300-level or above?
- FYI: VALUES prefix has been approved by the Curriculum Committee

2. **Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences** - (ENVH-20060621) Revised admission requirements for the major in Environmental Health within the Bachelor of Science.

Background: The program would like to change the admissions requirement such that students must earn a 2.5 overall GPA, a 2.0 overall GPA in chemistry and biology courses, and a minimum 1.7 GPA in each required chemistry and biology course. The program would also like to remove language about quarterly application deadlines.

Justification:

- The program has seen a dramatic increase in enrollment and would like to better screen applicants and regulate admission to the major.
- The department accepts applications at any point students have met the minimum admission requirements and the current quarterly deadlines language is confusing to students.

Action Taken: 10/06/06 – HOLD. Need GPA clarification (point 4) from department. – SCOTT

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Recommend approve routine, pending new, signed form with catalog changes sent to Curriculum Office.

3. **African Studies** – (AFRAM-20060925) – Revised requirements for the minor in African Studies and change name of program from African Studies to African and the African Diaspora.

Background: The department would like to capitalize on recent appointments at UWT & UWB of faculty with African and African Diaspora expertise to make changes the minor distribution requirements.

Justification:

- Would enable students to take advantage of classes at all levels and allow for the possibility of a bi-campus minor between Seattle and Bothell.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Recommend approve routine, pending new, signed form with catalog changes sent to Curriculum Office.

#### New Business:

1. **Chinese** – (CHIN-20060703) Revised requirements for the minor in Chinese.

Background: Department wants to add CHIN 212 and CHIN 213 to list of language courses approved for credit towards the minor.

Justification:

- Adding the heritage track CHIN 212 and 213 classes to the list of approved acknowledges that these classes cover the equivalent non-heritage track third year material.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

2. **Astronomy** – (ASTR-20060519) Revised requirements for the major in Astronomy within the Bachelor of Science.

Background: Would like to add that students must complete entry paperwork at departmental office to declare Astronomy major rather than just declaring on their application for admission to the university.

Justification:

- By requiring students to visit the office, the department is better able to ensure that Astronomy has contact with prospective majors and that Astronomy is a good fit with the students' interests.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Recommend approve as routine.

3. **Mathematics** – (MATH-20060712) Revised admission requirements for the major in ACMS within the Bachelor of Science.

Background: They would like to reduce the number of classes students must take to declare major.

Justification: Will allow students access to major earlier.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

4. **Physics** – (PHYS-20060623) Revised requirements for the major in Physics within the Bachelor of Science.

Background: Would like to add that students must complete entry paperwork at departmental office to declare Physics major rather than just declaring on their application for admission to the university.

Justification:

- By requiring students to visit the office, the department is better able to ensure that Physics has contact with prospective majors and that Physics is a good fit with the students' interests.
- 

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Recommend approve as routine.

5. **Latin American Studies** – (CHSTU-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Latin American Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to change the minor to parallel the categories and course lists of the major and to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

6. **Comparative Islamic Studies** – (SISME-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Comparative Islamic Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

7. **Korea Studies** – (SISEA-20060730A) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Korea Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

8. **China Studies** – (SISEA-20060730B) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/China Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

9. **Japan Studies** – (SISEA-20060730C) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Japan Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

10. **Southeast Asian Studies** – (SISEA-20060730D) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Korea Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

11. **Comparative Religion** – (RELIG-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Comparative Religion.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

12. **Canadian Studies** – (SISCA-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Canadian Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

13. **Jewish Studies** – (SISJE-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Jewish Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

14. **South Asian Studies** – (SISSA-20060730) Revised requirements for the minor in International Studies/Korea Studies.

Background: Department is proposing to eliminate the detailed citation of acceptable courses in the catalog, but instead maintain them on a departmental website.

Justification: This would improve administrative efficiency without impacting advising and self-advising.

Action Taken: 10/20/06 – Postponed to November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

## **2. Summary and Annual Report from Don Janssen**

Don Janssen reviewed the Faculty Council on Academic Standards 2005-2006 Summary Report, which encompassed the following topics: Review of the New and Revised Degree Programs, New Admissions Review Process; Admissions Petitions; Preliminary Admission of Exceptional Students; Awards; FCAS' authority for reviewing programs at the Bothell and Tacoma campuses; The working definitions of BS and BA degrees. In addition, the group reviewed the listings of Committee and Subcommittee Membership—Don noted changes and will resubmit the final document to George Dillon and mail to Secretary of the Faculty.

## **3. New Business: Discussion of guidelines for interdisciplinary minors**

The committee discussed the rules and policies for interdisciplinary minors. There were several concerned over students being able to use all the same courses for a major and a minor, since UW allows 100% overlap. Largely, this led to a broader discussion over what an “interdisciplinary” vs. “disciplinary” minor would actually look like. Further investigation into several areas needs to be pursued: 1) defining interdisciplinary minor vs. minor 2) finding an acceptable percentage of overlap between major and minor classes 3) if there would be different requirements for a student taking a minor from the same department which houses their major 4) whether an “inhouse” minor should be viewed as an option or minor 5) review 1503's structure around minors. Debbie will find definitions on a minor to share with the committee. Robert will check the code to see if minor can be taken in home/major department.

The meeting was adjourned at (3.03 pm). *Minutes by* (l. Whitney Thompson, Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, iwt@u.washington.edu)

**Present:**        **Faculty members:**  
Dillon, G.; Janssen, D.; Keith, S.; Cunningham, S.; Keil, R.; Johnson, J.;  
Newell, L.

**Ex officio members:**  
Shields, E.; Nobles, R.; Sahr, J.; Rickerson, C.

**Regularly invited guests:**  
Mildon, T. ; Wiegand, D., Corbett, R.

**Absent:**        **Faculty members:**  
Brixey, S. (excused)

**Ex-officio members:**