

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards met on Friday, **April 8, 2005** at 1:30 p.m. Chair Don Janssen presided.

Synopsis

1. Approval of March 11, 2005 Minutes.
2. SCAP. (Judith Clark, Director of Academic Advising and Student Services, School of Art.
3. Discussion of Dual (or Concurrent) Degree Proposal from Taskforce on Academic Progress.

Approval of the minutes of the February 25, 2005 FCAS meeting

The minutes of the March 11, 2005 FCAS meeting were approved as written.

SCAP: Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs

The following proposals were deemed “routine” by SCAP at its April 1, 2005 meeting:

1. College of Arts and Sciences – English (ENGL-013005). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in English within the Bachelor of Arts. Revised Program Requirements for the Major in English within the Bachelor of Arts. Revised Admission Requirements and elevation to option for creative writing track. “The proposed changes to admission and program requirements for the Major in English will resolve a number of obstacles or shortcoming in the current Major, including: an increasing crisis in student access to courses required, including access to both pre-admission and required courses, which delay entry into the major and the time to graduation; overwhelming numbers of students in the creative writing track who have difficulty getting access to upper division courses; no general introductory course for new majors; a general lack of attention to the continuities or connections between historical period courses; and an honors track that lacks coherence and fails to guarantee supervisory faculty for honors essay projects.

The new major includes a number of changes that will address these problems. Under the new major: pre-requisites for admission to the major will be much more flexible; overall credit hours will be reduced, from 63 to 55 credit hours; an introductory gateway lecture course, with intensive writing instruction, will be added; the requirements for the option in creative writing will be revised to manage enrollment and ensure access to upper-division courses; core course options for students will be reformulated to encourage cross-historical and cross-cultural developments in the key areas of theory, forms and history; the range of options for fulfilling major requirements will be more flexible and allow for more student choice; the honors track will offer a coherent, linked set of courses. The department argues that these changes will go a long way toward easing entry into the major and alleviating the current delay in time to degree.”

2. School of Art – Visual Communication Design (VCD) – (ART-013105). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Visual Communication Design (VCD) Bachelor of Fine Arts. Revised Program Requirements for the Major in Visual Communication Design (VCD) Bachelor of Fine Arts. “The changes proposed for the BFA in Visual Communication Design include:

- A modification of the selection process that will reduce the time that students must wait to declare the major. Previously students participated in a two quarter selection process. The new curriculum will allow us to select students into the major following a one day June admissions exam.
- A redesigned group of sophomore level classes that will be shared with Industrial Design and the proposed new BA in Design Studies. These classes are structured to enroll 70-90 students thus allowing us to admit a larger number of majors to this degree.

- Withdrawal of one previously required class and Art electives.
- Students will be able to complete all requirements to degree in 180 credits and four years.

3. School of Art – Industrial Design (ID) – (ARTa-013105). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Industrial Design (ID) Bachelor of Fine Arts. Revised Program Requirements for the Major Industrial Design (ID) Bachelor of Fine Arts. “

- A modification of the selection process that will reduce the time that students must wait to declare the major. Previously students participated in a two quarter selection process. The new curriculum will allow us to select students into the major following a one day June admissions exam.
- A redesigned group of sophomore level classes that will be shared with Visual Communication Design and the proposed new BA in Design Studies. These classes are structured to enroll 70-90 students thus allowing us to admit a larger number of majors to this degree.
- Students will be able to complete all requirements to degree in 180 credits and four years.

4. School of Art – Design Studies (ARTb-013105). Leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Design Studies. “The School of Art presently has a BA with a track in Interdisciplinary Visual Arts. This is a track in which students study broadly across disciplines in fine arts. This proposal expands the scope of the present BA by establishing a track in the field of design that, if approved, will be called BA in Design Studies. This proposal is part of a larger reconfiguration of the curriculum in the Design Division in the School of Art.”

5. School of Art – Painting and Drawing (ARTc-013105). Leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Painting and Drawing. “The School of Art presently has a BA with a track in Interdisciplinary Visual Arts. This is a track in which students study broadly across disciplines in fine arts. This proposal expands the scope of the present BA by establishing a track in the field of painting and drawing that will give students the option of concentrating their study in one field of the fine arts.”

6. School of Music – String Performance (MUSIC-121504). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in String Performance within the BM and BA/BM. “In the past, string performance majors in the BA/BM and BM degree programs were required to take Music 326, 327, 328 (2,2,2) for a total of 6 “repertoire” credits.

In place of this generic sequence, the String Division proposes that string performance majors be required to take a new, more specific course: Music 429, String Orchestral Repertoire (2).

The justification for this new course is that this class, for string performance majors, should be an orchestral repertoire class which would be used for providing necessary training in orchestral repertoire excerpts. We want to offer the course bi-annually. We feel that the training and study of orchestral excerpts our students will receive will prepare them for the possibility of: a) Winning an audition for a job in a professional paid orchestra; b) Mastering the repertoire they will need in an orchestral career. It should be noted that entirely new repertoire will be studied each quarter and repertoire studied each quarter will not be repeated for at least 5 years. Students will take the course a minimum of 3 times for a total of 6 credits.”

Janssen deferred signing this proposal until it has been verified that Music 429 exists as an approved course (the course currently does not appear in the University Course Catalog).

7. College of Arts and Sciences – Law, Societies and Justice (LSJ-120904). Revised Requirements for the Minor in Law, Societies and Justice. “This change to the minor reflects a new course added to the

curriculum, removal of courses not offered and removal of PHIL 338 as an acceptable LSJ core course. It is also an attempt to make the minor easier to complete by allowing students to use an LSJ Research Methods course in place of one of the LSJ Subfield courses and by asking students to do only two LSJ core courses rather than three. Finally, it clarifies the credit total needed for the minor by asking students to complete electives to reach 30. The enrollment in the minor option is increasing, and these changes will allow students greater flexibility in choice of classes and therefore make it easier to complete the minor.”

8. College of Arts and Sciences – Law, Societies and Justice (LSJa-120904). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Law, Societies and Justice within the Bachelor of Arts. Revised Program Requirements for the Major in Law, Societies and Justice within the Bachelor of Arts. “The changes to the list of acceptable LSJ core courses affect both the admission and graduation requirements for the major (the same changes are being made to the LSJ minor concurrently). PHIL 338 is being removed from the list at the request of the course’s primary instructor. The population of his course was being dominated by students more interested in LSJ than philosophy. The course will still be allowed in the LSJ subfield area for interested students. LSJ 362 (Law and Justice: an Introduction to Social Theory), a new course, is being added to the list of core classes as an equivalent to LSJ 363.

The other change is a clarification: ‘Students may use only one 3 or 4 credit course toward completion of the major.’ This corrects an error in which it was possible for students to complete the required courses for the major and still be shy of the 58 credit minimum for the LSJ degree requirements.’”

Judith Clark, Director of Academic Advising and Student Services, School of Art, discussed the proposals from the School of Art with the council.

Clark said that students in Design Studies will “go in the same door, and then go to one of three options”. She noted that resources from those running the three options will be pooled, and that office space will be shared. It will be at the end of the first year that students will enter, and focus on, one of the three options. Keith reiterated Washburn’s point that “these are majors, and must be called majors”. Washburn noted that there are no overlapping courses in the three programs. Clark reported that “substitutions will be allowed between programs but on an informal basis”. Janssen said, “These are all the three design degrees.”

Clark said, “Students coming into these programs will now have to have portfolios, will have individual interviews with faculty members, and will write an essay on why they are interested in the particular program they are trying to get into.” Washburn said, “It would be good to offer Art 166 through Distance Learning or at community colleges (since so much hinges on it).” Clark said, “Transfer students *will* be able to take the [entrance] exam without having had 166.” And she emphasized that they will be able to take “comparable courses [to 166] at community colleges”.

Clark said, “Our BFA’s are five-year programs; our BA’s are four-year programs. The last year of our BFA programs is the portfolio-developing year.” She stressed that “the BFA programs are much more demanding than the BA programs”. The extra year for the BFA programs “is really [in essence] an honors program [the School of Art does not have official honors programs]”. Woods said the three proposals (Visual Communication Design, Industrial Design, and Design Studies) “are all routine”.
FCAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE NEW BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJOR IN DESIGN STUDIES, THE TWO BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS MAJORS IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGN, AND THE NEW BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJOR IN PAINTING AND DRAWING.

Woods said that the questions concerning the revised admission requirements for the major in English within the Bachelor of Arts have been satisfactorily resolved, and that SCAP deemed the proposal to be “routine”.

Discussion of Dual (or Concurrent) Degree Proposal from Taskforce on Academic Progress

Wiegand noted that advisors had concerns about requiring a 3.0 GPA as a minimum for students applying for a second degree (“dual” or “concurrent” degree). Janssen asked that the statement about a policy for allowing students to petition for approval if they didn’t meet the minimum standards be placed at the bottom of the proposal. Corbett said that creating a petition process for exceptions to the minimum GPA would provide flexibility in applying this requirement. It was said that part of the issue was how the policy would be framed when announced more broadly. Wiegand said that she would take the policy to two student groups to get their perspective.

It was noted that abolishing the 45 credit rule for a dual degree would require Faculty Senate approval. Washburn said that perhaps the proposal to eliminate concurrent dual degrees of the same degree be done as an “opt-out” proposal, i.e. if a school or college wished to continue to allow the practice, they would have to create a policy that allowed for dual degrees. The Council discussed whether departments should be encouraged to create policy on individualized concurrent degree programs. There was some sentiment that this could undo the work that the Council and the Taskforce were trying to accomplish in restricting dual degrees.

Janssen said that the final seven lines of the proposal should be separated for the purposes of voting since they included the elimination of the 45 credit rule. It was then suggested that the council endorse the proposal to disallow concurrent degrees in the same college when the programs lead to the same degree. Thus, that proposal was moved up just after the bulleted minimum standards for applying for a second degree. **ONCE THIS EDITORIAL CHANGE WAS MADE, FCAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENDORSE THE PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR ALLOWING STUDENTS TO PURSUE A SECOND DEGREE.**

Janssen then said that the Council should vote to recommend that “FCAS agreed to pursue” the proposals concerning requiring additional university credits for dual degrees and post-baccalaureate degrees. **FCAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PROPOSAL.**

What follows is Debbie Wiegand’s April 13, 2005 DRAFT of the Institute approval processes for change of major, change of degree, and for enrolling in multiple majors or degrees.

Recommendation: Institute approval processes for change of major, change of degree, and for enrolling in multiple majors or degrees.

When an undergraduate enters a major he/she must complete a change-of-major form that requires the signatures of the adviser in the department they are entering and the adviser in the department they are leaving. The addition of a second major also requires the change-of-major form with signatures from both departmental advisers. Currently there are no guidelines for adviser approval of changing majors or adding majors.

UW policy states that undergraduates must complete their degree(s) within 30 credits beyond what is required for graduation. For most degrees, 180 credits are required and graduation is expected by 210 credits. Current implementation of this policy involves requiring students who have earned 210 credits and have not applied for graduation to complete a graduation plan that includes graduation within two quarters (approximately 240 credits).

Changing from one major or degree to another

Establish the following guidelines for departmental approval of change from one major or degree to another.

- The student must articulate an acceptable rationale for how the new major relates to his/her educational plan and personal goals.
- The student's academic plan must include completion of the new major within a reasonable number of credits, not to exceed 210 credits. Change of major will ideally occur before the student has completed 135 credits.

A student whose plan falls outside the guidelines may request a review for approval from the dean of the college of the new major or degree or his/her designee(s). Attention must be paid to the efficiency of this approval process.

Adding a major

Establish the following guidelines for departmental approval of multiple majors.

- The student must be enrolled in one major before adding any other majors.
- Enrollment in the additional major must occur before the student has completed 135 credits.
- The student must articulate an acceptable rationale for how all majors relate to his/her educational plan and personal goals.
- The student must be able to show the commitment and ability to complete all majors within a reasonable number of credits, not to exceed 210 credits. For any major that is a coherent program through which students move as a cohort, the student must show how the proposed academic plan allows full participation in the cohort.

A student whose plan falls outside the guidelines may request review for approval from the dean of the college that offers the majors or his/her designee(s). Attention must be paid to the efficiency of this approval process.

Adding a degree

Formalize structured dual degree options, such as BA/BM in Music, to be entered as one code. Admission and graduation requirements for dual degrees are determined by the departments and are subject to approval by the colleges that offer the degrees and the Faculty Council on Academic Standards, but are not subject to the guidelines below.

Establish the following guidelines for departmental approval of individualized concurrent degrees.

- The student must be admitted to one major before applying for the addition of an additional degree.
- Enrollment in an additional degree program must occur before the student has completed 135 credits.
- The student must have sophomore standing and completed at least 30 credits at UW with at least a 3.0 GPA.\
- The student must articulate an acceptable rationale for how all degrees relate to his/her educational plan and personal goals.
- The student must be able to show the commitment and ability to complete all degrees within a reasonable number of credits, not to exceed 210 credits. For a degree program that is a coherent program through which students move as a cohort, the student must show how the proposed academic plan allows full participation in the cohort.

The student whose academic plan falls outside the guidelines may request a review for approval from the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation). Attention must be paid to the efficiency of this approval process

Disallow awarding concurrent degrees in the same college when the programs lead to the same degree. Such students should pursue concurrent majors.

Faculty Senate

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards has agreed to pursue legislation to

- Eliminate the university's 45-credit requirement for concurrent degrees. Encourage colleges to adopt an individualized-concurrent-degree policy in the context of the above guidelines.
- Reduce the 45-credit requirement for post-baccalaureate degrees to 30 credits. A post-baccalaureate student must complete the residency requirement (45 credits out of last 60) only if he/she has not already done so.

Next meeting

The next FCAS meeting is set for Friday, April 22, at 1:30 p.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Janssen (Chair), Keith, Newell, Tripathi and Woods;
Ex officio members Pitre, Richards, Trudeau, Washburn and Wiegand;
Regular guest Robert Corbett, Office of the Provost, Coordinator of New Programs;
Guest Judith Clark, Director of Academic Advising and Student Services, School of Art.

ABSENT: *Professors* Buck, Labossiere, Montine, Reusch, Simon and Stygall;
Ex officio member Navin, Nyquist and Siddiqui.