

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards met on Friday, **June 3, 2005** at 1:30 p.m. Chair Don Janssen presided.

Synopsis

1. Approval of May 20, 2005 Minutes.
2. New Business:
 - Dual Degree/Major, etc.: Discussion with Paul LePore:
Assistant Dean for Educational Programs, College of Arts and Sciences.
3. Old Business:
 - SCAP
4. More New Business.
 - Meeting on Office of Undergraduate Education Reorganization – Steve Buck.
 - Ongoing/Unfinished Issues for next year?
 - FCAS Input for Program Reviews by Graduate School
 - DL Courses (possible working group with other Councils)
 - Holistic Admissions for Freshmen
 - FCAS 2004-2005 Annual Report (for Class “C” Bulletin)

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the May 20, 2005 FCAS meeting were approved as written.

Dual Degree/Major - Discussion with Paul LePore: Assistant Dean for Educational Programs, College of Arts and Sciences

Janssen said a few faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences have expressed displeasure with the Task Force on Academic Progress of UW-Seattle’s recommendation to eliminate concurrent degrees of the same degree name. He asked guest Paul LePore, Assistant Dean for Educational Programs, College of Arts and Sciences, for his perception of this issue. LePore said, “You mean the elimination of the 45 credit requirement for dual degrees? Only a handful of students want two degrees in the same degree area. So it’s not a huge issue as I see it. It goes back to the issue of whether or not a student focusing in two areas can get the breadth they need in 180 credits. It depends on what the degrees are, too. There is no one answer that says ‘the student is too narrow’. We have nothing against students who are receiving the same degree being limited to 180 credits. We have never thought of 45 credits – as the number of credits required for a second degree – to be a good magic number.” He added: “The cross-college distinction is lost on me. It seems a little arbitrary: the distinction being drawn here.”

Janssen said, “The chief distinction is that a student can do a double major in the same college.” Mildon said, “Other institutions allow two degrees in two different colleges.” Janssen said, “Double degree programs need to be well-defined. If that were done, it could accommodate Arts and Sciences concerns. Something the council agrees on is that there should be some additional work on the second degree.” Mildon said, “Some students consider it valuable to have two degrees rather than a double major.” LePore pointed out that “it *can* be a career issue”. Wiegand informed the council that “the ASUW does *not* support the Task Force recommendation to eliminate what the ASUW refers to – in its Resolution before the Student Senate – as ‘two same name degrees’.” LePore said, “Given our enrollment management plans now, it’s not as big an issue as it once was. It *is* somewhat arbitrary. At 180 credits, a student could earn a double major in the same college, but not a double degree. As for upper-division credits, there are not that many upper-division courses being taken. Not as many as you might think. I

don't perceive this issue as a problem. And you're right when you suggest that if we make it possible to complete the two degrees in fewer credits, it will devalue their degrees somewhat."

Navin said, "Most students that I studied [in a survey conducted on behalf of FCAS] were done with their double degree in fewer than 210 credits." Wiegand said, "Usually, a student can't finish two degrees in fewer than 210 credits, but we don't need 45 more credits [beyond 180]." Wiegand asked LePore how "the conversation is going [on this issue] in Arts and Sciences". LePore said, "I could ask deans, and also check with advisers. And I could present an FCAS proposal. The upper-division issue *is* relevant: that students graduate with so few upper division credits." Janssen said, "We need the degree to be a true baccalaureate degree, and not an extended associate degree." LePore said, "I'll share this discussion with A&S deans."

SCAP: Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs Routine Proposals

The following proposals were deemed "routine" by SCAP at its May 27th and June 3rd, 2005 meetings:

Proposals addressed by the Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) May 27, 2005 and June 3, 2005 SCAP Meetings (for June 3, 2005 FCAS Meeting)

1. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies / Latin American Studies (SIS-122204). Revised Major Requirements. "Latin American Studies is proposing the following changes in order to adjust to faculty changes that have taken place over the last decade, help make the major more user-friendly and beneficial for students, bring the curriculum in line with the regional redefinition of the program which now includes the French speaking Americas, and conform with the larger revisions for all major sequences in the Jackson School of International Studies: 1) The addition of French to the required language list given that the Latin American Studies program now includes an emphasis not only on the Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking Americas but also on the French-speaking Americas; 2) The addition of SIS 201 to the Latin American Studies requirements so as to conform to larger revisions for all major sequences in the School of International Studies; 3) The redefinition of the core courses from one of history, culture and development to one of simple history and contemporary Latin America so as to adjust to changes in our faculty (due to retirements, new hires, etc.) which will in turn make our program more user-friendly for majors; 4) The transformation of the senior thesis to a two-credit senior project (SIS 496) so as to allow students greater flexibility in tailoring this capstone experience to their personal, professional and academic goals."

THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED "ROUTINE" BY SCAP.

2. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies / Jewish Studies (SISJE-120304). Revised Major Requirements. "The addition of SIS 201 to the Jewish Studies core course requirement conforms to larger revisions for all major sequences in the School of International Studies. The institution of a two-track system will allow students to tailor the major to their interests. The addition of a Capstone Paper will encourage efforts to synthesize the student's studies with a demonstration of research competence in a field of Jewish Studies." **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED "ROUTINE" BY SCAP.**

3. College of Arts and Sciences – School of Music (MUSIC-011805). Revised Program Requirements for all majors with the Bachelor of Music. "The School of Music 10-year program review resulted in a recommendation that the School of Music move from a five-year double degree to a four-year degree Bachelor of Music as our primary degree. The School has decided to eliminate the BA/BM option as a formal degree track. While most of our majors currently offer a four-year Bachelor of Music (BM), this option was only available to a select number of students. In order for the BM to become the primary degree option for our students, we must remove or amend some language.

THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED "ROUTINE" BY SCAP.

This change will have a positive impact on the competitiveness of our program. While we are highly-regarded in the state, students do choose other schools based on the four-, versus our five-year time to degree. This change will also support UW initiatives to move students to graduation more quickly and maximize scholarship support for music students.

4. College of Engineering – Materials Science and Engineering (MSE-042005). Revised Requirements for the Minor in Materials Science and Engineering. “The Materials Science and Engineering minor in place until recently was based on courses available in the undergraduate major at the time and the specialty areas of metallurgy and ceramics. The minor now being proposed uses the courses available in the revised undergraduate curriculum put in place Autumn 2002 and reflects the broad-based background knowledge needed to work in the materials areas currently.” **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED “ROUTINE” BY SCAP.**

5. College of Engineering – Technical Communication (TC-050505). Revised Program Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Technical Communication (BSTC). “TC 412-Print Production has been a partial core requirement for the BSTC degree. Currently students are required to take either TC 412 or TC 437 – Web Design & Web Publishing. Each class contains curriculum represented in the core competencies outlined by TC faculty. Each class needs to be a separate requirement, therefore we are requesting TC 412 be added as a required course to the TC major curriculum.” **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED “ROUTINE” BY SCAP.**

6. School of Social Work – Social Welfare (SOC WF-052605). Revised Program Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare. “School faculty are developing a new major, one with a liberal arts focus that is not a practice major and is not accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Currently our plan is to continue to admit 60 students each fall: 40 to the traditional, practice-based major and 20 to the new liberal arts major.

The new major is not yet ready for faculty approval. But in the process of designing this major, we are making minor revisions in the current practice major. The revisions include changing credit allocations for several core classes, switching some courses between the junior and senior years, and changing three courses from electives to core requirements. These changes will bring our BASW program into step with the course track of the MSW program, so students who graduate with the BASW may more smoothly matriculate into our one-year, Advanced Standing MSW. **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED “ROUTINE” BY SCAP.**

7. School of Public Health and Community Medicine – Environmental and Occupational Health (EHS-052505). Revised Admission Requirements for the Major in Environmental Health within the Bachelor of Science. “The reduction of the pre-requisites list benefits the students while still maintaining a rigorous science undergraduate program whose graduates will be able to compete in the work world as well as for graduate school admissions.” **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED “ROUTINE” BY SCAP.**

8. College of Engineering – Civil Engineering (CE-052605). Revised Program Requirements for the Major within the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. “1) ABET (our accreditation board) requires students to have proficiency in various area of mathematics, including statistics. We have not required a statistics course and a recent discussion with students in the department indicated that many of them did not feel like they had any proficiency in the area of statistics. We therefore have decided to require either IND E 315 or STATE 390. While IND 315 would be the preferred course, requiring only this course would place a burden on both transfer students and the Industrial Engineering program (which teaches IND E 315). Therefore, we decided to allow either course.

To provide some added flexibility for our students, they will be permitted to count IND E 315 as wither a Mathematics course or an Engineering Fundamentals course. Credit will not be granted for both InD E 315 and STAT 390.

2) We have reduced the required Engineering Fundamentals credits from 20 to 19. While most Engineering Fundamentals courses are 4 credits, IND E 315 is only 3. This change allows students who are counting IND E 315 as an Engineering Fundamentals not to need an additional Engineering Fundamentals course to get that last credit.

3) CEE 391 was originally proposed as a single, 4-credit course. It has proven more effective to break the content down into two separate courses, CEE 391 (3 credits) and CEE 392 (1 credit).

4) ABET requires students to have proficiency in at least four areas of Civil Engineering. We cover six areas of Civil Engineering, and have identified “Core Courses” in each of these areas (see attached List A). We are proposing to modify our minimum 15-credit Technical Electives (senior-level, in-department) requirement to include at least one core course in each of four separate areas of Civil Engineering. Students may choose any Core Courses so long as they come from at least four different areas identified in List A.” **THIS PROPOSAL WAS DEEMED “ROUTINE” BY SCAP.**

The council also agreed in principle to approve the UW Seattle proposal for a new major in Finnish Studies in the Department of Scandinavian Studies. The proposal was deemed “acceptable but non-routine” by the full council. The 30-day tri-campus comment period on the proposal will conclude on June 5, 2005. FCAS Chair Don Janssen will sign off on the proposal when the comment period is concluded.

Meeting on Office of Undergraduate Education Reorganization – Steve Buck

Buck said a group of six to eight people met three different times to discuss the Office of Undergraduate Education Reorganization. They will meet twice more. “Given the transitions in the Office of Undergraduate Education [Dean and Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education George Bridges is leaving the University] and in the Office of Student Affairs [Vice President for Student Affairs Ernest Morris is leaving the University], we will recommend to the president and to the new provost [Phyllis Wise, currently Dean of the Division of Biological Sciences at the University of California, Davis] general points of view and alternative administrative structures,” Buck said. He noted that there are “some substantial differences in philosophy” among those in the discussion group. “But all agree that student services should be put under the provost, so that student activities and services and academic functions will be guided and coordinated by the Provost’s Office.”

But regardless of what arrangement ultimately is made, Buck said it is hoped that there will be access to the President’s Cabinet and to committees under the direction of the Provost’s Office. “Whatever the group recommends,” he stressed, “the provost will have to decide how to structure it all. The feeling among the discussion group is that there is a need for a coordinated group from all of these branches to aid this communication.” Buck said there probably will be no search for the positions that need to be filled until fall 2005.

Nyquist asked if units *not* in Student Affairs are being considered. Buck replied: “People are staying away from proposing new structures beyond the existing bounds of Student Affairs. At least for now.” Regarding the possibility of putting representatives from the Graduate School on Student Affairs, Buck said, “People know there needs to be a link with the Graduate School; any conflict existing now between Student Affairs and the Graduate School is probably more apparent than real.”

Mildon said, "It seemed odd to us [in the Office of the University Registrar] that the Office of the Registrar would report through an Undergraduate Education office since we deal with professional schools."

FCAS Input for Program Reviews by Graduate School

Janssen said he will "push to get FCAS input on Graduate School program reviews". And he will ask a representative, or representatives, of the Graduate School to visit the council in the 2005-2006 academic year to discuss this issue. (Gail Dubrow, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, and Augustine McCaffery, Manager, Academic Programs, visited the council in the 2003-2004 academic year. Dubrow, however, will be leaving the University.)

Distance Learning Courses (possible working group with other Councils)

Janssen said that FCAS, FCIQ (Faculty Council on Instructional Quality), and FCEO (Faculty Council on Educational Outreach), will quite possibly be working together to review Distance Learning courses. More will be known about this by Autumn Quarter 2005. (FCEO has been reviewing DL courses, and spent considerable time discussing and implementing criteria for DL course review.)

Holistic Admissions for Freshmen

Janssen met with Philip Ballinger, Director of Admissions, who said he needs a model in place this summer on holistic admissions for freshmen. The subcommittee whose task it will be to formulate this model will be drawn from whatever FCAS members are available in the summer months. Ballinger will have proposals on how to consider admissions, and wants FCAS input. Representative faculty of the different colleges will review the admissions.

FCAS 2004-2005 Annual Report (for Class "C" Bulletin)

Janssen said he would revise the FCAS 2004-2005 Annual Report to note the appropriate changes in the number of "routine" and "non-routine" proposals seen by SCAP and FCAS in the 2004-2005 academic year, per the final eight proposals brought to the council for today's meeting. The council unanimously approved the draft of the Annual Report. Janssen will make the stated revision and send the Report to the Faculty Senate Office.

Next meeting

This was the final meeting of the Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) for the 2004-2005 academic year. The next meeting of the council will take place in October 2005.

Brian Taylor
Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Janssen (Chair) and Buck;
Ex officio members Navin, Nyquist, Pitre and Wiegand;
Regular guest Robert Corbett, Office of the Provost, Coordinator of New Programs;
Guests Paul LePore, Assistant Dean for Educational Programs, College of Arts and Sciences; and Todd Mildon, University Registrar, Office of the Registrar.

ABSENT: *Professors* Keith, Labossiere, Montine, Newell, Reusch, Richards, Simon, Stygall, Tripathi, Trudeau and Woods;
Ex officio members Bridges, Richards and Siddiqui.