

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards met on Friday, **October 17, 2003** at 1:30 p.m. Chair Carolyn Plumb presided.

Synopsis

1. Approval of the minutes of the October 3, 2003 FCAS meeting.
2. Discussion of College of Forest Resources proposal, including presentations by COFR
3. SCAP (Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs).

Approval of the minutes of the October 3, 2003 FCAS meeting

The minutes of October 3, 2003 were approved as written.

Discussion of College of Forest Resources proposal

Michelle Trudeau, Director, Student and Academic Services, Forest Resources, referred the council to the letters of support for the following proposed new major under discussion at today's council meeting:

College of Forest Resources – Environmental Science and Resource Management (ENVSCI-040403). New major. “This new major will replace six existing majors in the College of Forest Resources (CFR). The four proposed new core courses will provide all new majors with foundational concepts. 35 CFR general credits will allow students to focus their specific education in existing specialized areas of the college or to have a broader experience across the environmental and natural resources sciences.”

The letters of support come from: the College of Architecture and Urban Planning, the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, the Department of Biology, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the Department of Earth and Space Science, and the Program on the Environment.

She also referred the council to the philosophical statement concerning the Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources with a major in Environmental Science and Resource Management. The statement, in part, informs the council that “the consolidation and integration of the College's undergraduate programs has been a goal of the College faculty for several years. The renewed focus on interdisciplinarity and natural resource sustainability is clearly supportive of our vision for the future of the College. Trudeau pointed out that there were handouts for a transfer plan to the new major and data on the new major name and enrollment at the college.

College of Forest Resources Dean Bruce Bare said, “We're glad to have another opportunity to meet with the council to discuss our proposal to have one new major replace six existing majors.” Bare reminded the council that he and Trudeau and others met with the council in late May 2003. He said, “Everything we do [in CFR] is controversial, it seems. And this proposal apparently is no exception.”

Dean Bare said he had a few main points to stress in his comments to the council. “We're not changing our degree. It is still a Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources; except that we would now have one major – Environmental Science and Resource Management – combining six existing majors [in addition to the separate Paper Science and Engineering major] within the one degree.”

Bare said, “82.5% of 60% of our faculty [the faculty in attendance at a CFR meeting] voted 'yes' for this program. It is crucial for the program to be approved quickly. This is the culmination of a long series of faculty meetings, reports, and other faculty discussions going back to 1996.” Bare also pointed out, “What we're doing strategically is in great measure a response to various pressures confronting the College of Forest Resources. We have a shrinking student population. We have increasing pressure from the administration on upper campus. Thus, we need to use our resources more efficiently. And we need to look at our product. We need to have a more efficient way of organizing our resources; and this

program is one way of doing that. We have consolidated various majors into a new product. We need more students, and a more attractive product.”

Bare said the proposed change would be “more friendly to transfer students, and offer greater flexibility with respect to electives.” He also said CFR faculty believe that the title, “Environmental Science and Resource Management,” is an excellent choice to describe the curriculum that would be offered [in the new major]. “And it best describes the transformation process that we are going through in the College of Forest Resources,” he added. “That the ‘environment’ is so intertwined with so many departments should not be an issue.”

Professor Craig ZumBrunnen, Director, Program on the Environment, said, “The Program on the Environment is supportive of the effort to try and focus on interdisciplinary team-based teaching. We’re appreciative of everything the College of Forest Resources has done with respect to this. But we also share the concern that various programs besides PoE have regarding the [proposed] name of the new major. When PoE was established, it was our goal to eventually have a Bachelor’s Degree in Environmental Science.”

“We believe that the concept of ‘environmental science’ contains more science than the major being proposed by the College of Forest Resources,” ZumBrunnen said. “Such a major would be more science-oriented. Whereas *this* degree represents a portion of ‘environmental science’. We would not want this degree to preclude the development of an ‘environmental science’ degree [in PoE]. That degree would have as its basic concept a clear capstone experience in which credit for a major would go with an advisor for that degree.”

“Our other concern,” said ZumBrunnen, “is that there is some overlap of the four proposed PoE courses and courses in *this* degree [from CFR]. And there is a comparable percentage of transfer students: 40%. We would like to have a shared, collaborative effort. We think a better title for the proposed CFR major – and one that would be less confusing – would be: Natural Resource Science and Management.”

Bare said, “Our courses are oriented differently. Our faculty will continue to participate in PoE programs as well. But we have concerns about the representation of specialties. It would be best if the ‘options’ concept were part of this.”

It was pointed out that the strongest concern about the proposed name of the new major is that the curriculum represented in the program is *part* of “environmental science” but that it is not broad enough a curriculum regarding the sciences.

Buck asked, “Does CFR have other undergraduate majors?” Bare said there is one in Paper Science. He also said, regarding the issue of ‘concentrations’ versus ‘options,’ “We feel concentrations would be all right now; we agree that they would be more fluid.”

Professor David Armstrong, Director, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, told the council that the CFR proposal was discussed at an SAFS retreat. “We also came to the conclusion that the title exceeds the scope of the material included in the major. We had to rename *our* program. Through *our* lens (SAFS), a couple of things stand out. The proposed major seems light on the science side. The students in the program need to be made competitive for graduate programs. This relates to redoing core credits, to get greater breadth in the curriculum. The proposed revised major is also light on ecology systems. It may overemphasize the human elements. Our faculty wondered if students in the program would have enough real scientific content in their courses. Also, there are too many electives that should be re-directed into more core science course: e.g., Chemistry and Physics.” Armstrong added that “CFR has too many upper division courses and may need to reduce them to ensure reasonably good enrollment in those [courses] remaining, and coverage of the most important topics.”

Trudeau said, “The new major actually has more science than some of our old majors: more chemistry and more calculus.”

Professor Loveday Conquest, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, said she had concerns “about the visibility of certain concentrations. Will the prefixes change, for instance?” Bare said, “We don’t know yet. We will have to see.” Conquest said, “If you could maintain a prefix, that would help.”

Plumb said, “I see the point about students being confused, approaching the two programs.” Trudeau said, “So much of Forestry involves policy and social science aspects; we need to have students learn these facets of Forestry.” Bare added, “These four new [proposed] core courses are not ‘ordered’.”

Plumb asked council members if they had questions. Janssen asked, “Can the 35 [upper division] credits be *any* 35 credits?” Bare said, “We haven’t fleshed that out yet, more specifically, but they will be in three or four or five areas.” Janssen said, “So students will have to take a senior level course, for example.” Bare said, “Yes. They will have to have specific credits they have to complete.” Stygall asked if the issue being discussed here “is in the best interest of students?” Bare replied, “Somewhat.” Stygall said, “Are you concerned that you *won’t* attract students without the ‘Environmental Sciences’ name?” Bare responded, “I don’t know. We did not have that particular discussion. I *will* say that ‘Eco-system science’ is a pejorative term in our college.”

Kenney said, “Environmental Science is a huge area; it has multiple aspects. Not everything is ‘applied.’ The problem is making it all clear to students.” Corbett said, “We have to make the case to the HEC Board. They’ll do what we want them to, but we have to make the case.”

Bare said, “We want to emphasize that there’s only one degree. There are two majors, but one degree.” Buck asked, “If the program is approved as it is now, would students who sign into the major be clear about the concentrations, etc.?” Bare said, “Hopefully, yes, by Winter Quarter. If not, we will have a structure in place by Spring Quarter. Students will *need* to have a concentration.” Buck said, “Then that will have to be worked out *before* students go into their major.”

Armstrong said, “Still, we see the name as too broad for the content of the proposed program. Perhaps the problem in the title lies in the use of the word ‘Forestry.’ And it may be that the College itself could be better named, rather than that the College needs to name a new major.” Bare said, “Our history – in the College of Forest Resources – demands a more inclusive title. We can’t use ‘Natural Resources’ or ‘Natural Science.’ Possible concentrations are Wildlife, Forestry, Urban Horticulture, and perhaps Conservation. We focus on the terrestrial, not on water-related content.” Woods said, “You *need* some terrestrial name in the title.” Bare said, “That’s in the title now: ‘Forest Resources’.” Trudeau said, “We do a lot of double degrees with the Program on the Environment. That is part of our flexibility in the new major.”

Plumb said, “The issue is complex. We should vote either today or at our next council meeting. We’re specifically voting on the College of Forest Resources changing the number of majors within their Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources degree from seven to two. (Six majors are being combined in the proposed ‘Environmental Science and Resource Management’ major. The other major is ‘Paper Science and Engineering.’) There was before, and would be now, one degree. That does not change. And they are now, in response to the recommendations of SCAP and FCAS, proposing to make concentrations instead of minors.”

Kenney said, “As to the concentrations, each *can* be used as a minor for non-majors.” Janssen said, “And it should be clear that a 400-level course is a requirement. If that is not clear, there is a problem.” Stygall said, “Asking for *one* 400-level course is a good idea.” Kenney said, “Yes; and it doesn’t have to be a specific 400-level course. We need to encourage them on this route, but we need to ask them what they’ll expect their students to do: what the students will have to take.”

Plumb asked council members if they had concerns about the name [“Environmental Science and Resource Management”]? Richards said, “Yes. It’s a bigger problem than this council.” Plumb said, “We need to decide.” Kenney said, “Can we approve, and recommend that they attempt to negotiate the

name with the other programs that have concerns [with the name]?” Janssen said, “We approve the program, but we should send a letter to the Provost stating that, with respect to the proposed name, on which there is disagreement among several different programs – CFR, SAFS and PoE – it’s beyond the purview of FCAS to decide, and needs the authority of the Provost’s Office.”

Plumb said, “I could say that we will need a new 1503 form from the College of Forest Resources that includes the changes agreed upon by the program and the council (concentrations instead of minors; a required 400-level course, etc.), and that we will send the issue concerning the name of the proposed major to the Provost.” Buck said, “You might say to CFR, ‘...until *all* your courses are in concentrations.’ ” Janssen said, “We want to see all the courses students will be expected to take. And we want to know about any possible sequencing.” Woods said, “The concentrations will be minors for non-majors.” Plumb said, “And those will need to be approved by SCAP; they’re minors.”

It was decided that the following questions would be asked of Dean Bare and the College of Forest Resources: Will all students be required to complete a concentration? If not, will there be a 400-level course requirement? What concentrations will you be offering right away? What requirements will students need to complete in regard to 300-level and 400-level coursework for these concentrations? Is there a capstone experience for students? Plumb said the council would want to vote on this more detailed proposal on Friday, October 31st.

Plumb will also tell Dean Bare that, if FCAS approves the new proposal, that approval will include a letter to the Provost that outlines some of the issues that arose in today’s meeting: concern about the name being too broad for the curriculum and concern about the new major precluding an interdisciplinary B.S. in Environmental Science.

SCAP (Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs)

SCAP Chair Nancy Kenney said the following proposals were deemed routine, with exceptions noted: NOTE: The following proposal was discussed at the June 13, 2003 FCAS meeting, and was considered problematic in several respects, though the overall proposal was considered to be a good one, if the problematic areas – such as access to the DXARTS 200 course – can be corrected. Council approval of this proposal was withheld for the time being.

1. College of Arts and Sciences – Program on Digital Arts and Experimental Media (DXARTS-060203). New Major/Degree. “Digital and Experimental Arts.” **SCAP ASSESSMENT: RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL TO FCAS, BUT PROPOSAL DEEMED NON-ROUTINE.**

Undergraduate Program

Digital Arts and Experimental Media (DXARTS) covers a wide range of arts practice and research across multiple disciplines leading to a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree. The BFA program takes advantage of this convergence to create a distinct multidisciplinary community of artists and scholars whose work is best identified collectively as belonging to Digital Arts and Experimental Media. All of the areas depend on the collaboration of artists, engineers, and scientists for their current existence and continued growth in terms of discovery and application.

Examples of Research and Professional Opportunities in DXARTS:

- Digital video art
- Computer music composition
- Web site design and programming
- 3D animation
- motion graphics design
- user interface design
- sound design
- interactive media production
- multimedia art
- electronic stage and set design
- authoring of electronic on-line publications
- special effects design
- virtual environment design
- sound art
- installations art (in galleries, public and virtual spaces)

Bachelor's of Fine Arts

Admission Requirements

Application and admission to the Digital and Experimental Arts degree program is a highly competitive process that takes place once a year. Application to the program will normally occur during the sophomore year. To begin the application process, students must enroll in DXARTS 200 in the autumn quarter. Based on performance in DXARTS 200 students will be selected to continue into DXARTS 201 in the winter quarter. Students enrolled in DXARTS 201 are eligible to submit an application and supplemental materials to be considered for admission to the program for the spring quarter.

In addition, students must complete the following prior to application:

1. CSE 142 and 143
2. PHYS 114 or 121
3. MUSIC 120 or ART H 203
4. Mathematics proficiency through the pre-calculus level. Proficiency may be demonstrated by completion of MATH 120 or equivalent, a score of 68% or above on a UW Advance Mathematics placement test, a score of 2 or higher on the mathematics AP exam, or completion of a college-level calculus course.

Major Requirements

In addition to the courses required for admission as described above, major requirements include the following:

1. DXARTS 202 (5 credits)
2. Three quarters of DXARTS 400 (2,2,2 credits)
3. DXARTS 412, 430, 450, 460 (16 credits)
4. 300- and 400-level Supporting Electives (50 credits)
A minimum of 25 credits must be taken from DXARTS; the remainder may be additional DXARTS courses or from list of approved electives in other areas.
5. DXARTS 498 – Senior Thesis (15 credits)
The Senior Thesis includes the requirement for completion and exhibition of a BFA Thesis Project that is a significant and original contribution both aesthetically and technically.
5. A minimum GPA of 2.5 in all DXARTS courses.

2. School of Public Health and Community Medicine – Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (ENVHS-070203). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE, PENDING EDITORIAL CHANGES.** Revised program requirements for the Major in Environmental Health within the Bachelor of Environmental Health. “Students completing the DEH Undergraduate program often are expected to be conversant with both environmental and occupational health principles and technical skills. In an effort to streamline undergraduate curriculum in the area of sampling and analytical techniques, we have reconfigured three existing courses (Env H 430 – Methods in Environmental Sampling and Analysis; Env H 431 – Environmental Health Sampling and Analysis II; and Env H 454 – Environmental Health Measurements). The content of these three courses have been merged into a coherent three quarter sequence of courses that will reduce redundancy and leverage the similarities between environmental and occupational exposure assessment methods and analytical techniques. The new three quarter sequence includes one quarter of primarily lecture and two quarters of integrated lecture and laboratory. The new series is Env H 431, Env H 432, and Env H 433.”

3. College of Arts and Sciences – Dance Program (DANCE-072303). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised major requirements. “The Dance Program Faculty has unanimously voted to make some broad changes to the BA dance curriculum in order to enhance the pedagogical aims of the program, more fully capitalize on areas of faculty expertise, help to maintain programmatic excellence via smaller class sizes, and facilitate time to degree for majors and minors. Specifically, we would like to implement the following changes to the BA dance curriculum: 1) decrease the minimum required credits for the BA in dance from 70 to 65. This change would occur by reducing the core curriculum courses for the dance major and offering a group of dance electives from which students would select a minimum of two courses. These proposed changes will allow students to choose an emphasis within the degree such as performance/choreography, dance studies (history, aesthetics, world dance), pedagogy or production. Please note that Dance 242 (Music in Relation to Dance) is a new course, or rather a course that was dropped some years ago that we would like to reinstate in the curriculum. A new course form for Dance 242 is being submitted for review along with these proposed changes. I have also added Dance 310, 311, 312, 401-406 to the list of technique classes counting toward the dance minor. These upper level courses should be available to dance minors with an extensive background in dance technique.”

4. College of Arts and Sciences – Psychology (PSYCH-061803). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised program requirements for the major within the Bachelor of Arts. “We wish to prevent misunderstanding about courses that may be used for electives in the degree program.” Current language: “Up to four credits from PSYCH 200, 300, or 400 level electives (if needed) for a minimum of 50 Psychology credits.” Added proposed language: “Students may not use Psych 200 as an elective if Psych 300 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 203 as an elective if Psych 303 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 206 as an elective if Psych 306 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 245 as an elective if Psych 345 is used to fulfill major requirements.”

5. College of Arts and Sciences – Psychology (PSYCHa-061803). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised program requirements for the major within the Bachelor of Science. “We wish to prevent misunderstanding about courses that may be used for electives in the degree program.” Current language: “Up to six credits from PSYCH 200, 300, or 400 level electives (if needed) for a minimum total of 66 Psychology credits.” Added proposed language: “Students may not use Psych 200 as an elective if Psych 300 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 203 as an elective if Psych 303 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 206 as an elective if Psych 306 is used to fulfill major requirements; or use Psych 245 as an elective if Psych 345 is used to fulfill major requirements.”

6. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies/South Asian Studies (SIS-052803). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised minor requirements. “In the absence of a permanent South Asia historian in the History department, the South Asia program cannot assure that a required course in its minor, HSTAS 201, will be available. Through postdoctoral appointments and other temporary means we are keeping HSTAS 202 on the books every year. In addition, we are now offering SISSA 200, South Asia Today, which was not taught regularly prior to 2002; it is added as an equally suitable ‘primary civ’ option for the minor. Other courses are added or deleted to bring the minor up to date as a result of recent faculty appointments (e.g. ANTH/ENVIR 371), new courses (e.g., Prof. Shapiro’s HUM 101), withdrawn courses (e.g., PHIL 413), or prefix changes (e.g., RELIG 350 is now RELIG 350/ANTH 352).”

7. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies/Latin American Studies (SIS-063003). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised minor requirements. “Adding three new courses appropriate to the Latin American Studies minor (SISLA/SPAN 489, CHSTU 498, HSTAA 284); correcting others because of re-numbering in History and Chicano Studies curricula.”

8. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies/Jewish Studies (SISa-063003). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised minor requirements. “Adding three new courses appropriate to

the Jewish Studies minor; deleting one (HEBR 333) because of renumbering in History and Hebrew curriculum.”

9. College of Arts and Sciences – International Studies/China Studies (SISb-063003). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised minor requirements. “Adding a new course taught by Prof. Kam Wing Chan, Professor of Geography and member of the China Studies faculty (“Industrialization and Urbanization in China”).

10. College of Arts and Sciences – Earth and Space Sciences (ESS-052703). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised program requirements. “The ESS Curriculum Committee has determined that ESS 205 Access to Space, should be made available as a choice in the ESS core for students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree with a Physics Option in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences.”

11. College of Forest Resources – Environmental Science and Resource Management (ENVSCI-040403). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: PENDING.** New major. “This new major will replace six existing majors in the College of Forest Resources (CFR). The four proposed new core courses will provide all new majors with foundational concepts. 35 CFR general credits will allow students to focus their specific education in existing specialized areas of the college or to have a broader experience across the environmental and natural resources sciences.”

12. School of Nursing – Nursing (NURS-091203). **SCAP ASSESSMENT: ROUTINE.** Revised admission requirement for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing. “The School of Nursing receives 300-400 applications to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Although the majority of the applicants meet the current minimum requirements, only the most competitive applicants are seriously considered for admission. The change in the minimum requirements combined with the explanation of the application screening process allows potential applicants to make an informed decision and comparison of their competitiveness for the program.”

Kenney said one proposal (Dental Public Health Sciences: DPHS-090803) was postponed at the October 10 SCAP meeting for further review. “SCAP approved the Digital Arts proposal, but we have questions,” said Kenney. She mentioned several, including a question as to whether or not students submit portfolios but do not take 201, how transfer students are dealt with, whether or not a fifth year is needed to accommodate the full-year thesis (could the full-year thesis perhaps be completed in the fourth year?), and what will happen to those students who do not get into 201?

Next meeting

The next FCAS meeting is set for Friday, October 31, 2003, at 1:30 p.m., in 142 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor

Recorder

PRESENT: *Professors* Plumb (Chair), Buck, Fan, Janssen, Keith, Kenney, Stygall and Woods;
Ex officio members Morales, Richards and Stygall;

Regular guest Robert Corbett, Coordinator of New Programs.

Guests Professor Bruce Bare, Dean, College of Forest Resources; Michelle Trudeau, Forest Resources; Professor Craig ZumBrunnen, Director, Program on the Environment; Professor Richard Gammon, Co-Director; Professor David Armstrong, Director, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences; and Professor Loveday Conquest, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences.

ABSENT: *Professors* Gianola, Labossiere, Newell, Reusch and Simon;

Ex officio members Navin, Pitre, Washburn and Wiegand.