

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

4140 University Square South

December 4, 2024

3-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Ann Allen (Department of Educational Studies)
- ✓ Dr. Carlos Castro (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Ann Christy (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Samantha Herrmann (Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Mike Hogan (OSU Extension)
- ✓ Dr. Neal Hooker (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
- ✓ Dr. Nicole Kwiek (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Russell Marzette (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Thomas Nelson (Department of Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. Sue Sutherland (Department of Human Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Valarie Williams (Department of Dance)

Staff:

- ✓ Ms. Margo Coates (College of Dentistry)

Students:

- ✓ Mr. Charlie Mace (CGS, Physics)
- ✓ Mr. Andrew Miles (CGS, Plant Pathology)
- ✓ Ms. Angilmarie Rivera Sanchez (IPC, Law)
Ms. Mykenna Roy (USG, Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Nathan Snizik (USG, International Studies)

Administrator:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith (Office of Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

Mr. Adam Andrews (Center for Life Sciences Education)
Dr. Betty Lise Anderson (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering)
Dr. Noelle Arnold (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Dr. Paul Bellair (Criminal Justice Research Center)
Ms. Lisa Duffy (Office of the University Registrar)

Dr. Harold Fisk (Center for Life Sciences Education)
Dr. Carri Gerber (Ohio State ATI)
Dr. Rob Greenbaum (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
Dr. Rob Griffiths (Ohio State Online)
Mr. Ryan Hunt (Office of the University Registrar)
Dr. Tara King (College of Nursing)
Dr. Steve Lopez (Criminal Justice Research Center)
Dr. Maria Miriti (Graduate School)
Ms. Jeanne Osborne (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)
Dr. Tasha Snyder (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Mr. Peter Spreitzer (University Exploration)
Mr. Lee Strang (Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society)
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)
Mr. Terondrick Waller (Office of Undergraduate Admissions)
Ms. Kristin Wickham-Saxon (Center for Languages, Literature, and Culture)

The meeting came to order at 3:01 PM

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR SUE SUTHERLAND

Sutherland shared her gratitude for the work done by the subcommittees with a special thanks to Subcommittee A for its review of the Chase Center proposal.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

The proposal to establish a Master of Cybersecurity and Digital Trust was approved at the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee meeting on November 6, 2024.

The Council will soon review a proposal to revise the Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship.

Smith is working with leadership at Bluffton University to offer a dual degree program in Engineering. This will be Ohio State's first dual degree with an Ohio private institute of higher education.

The University continues to develop academic programming around sustainability.

The Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) is receiving an increased number of cases as we approach the end of the semester. Jennifer Whetstone, COAM Coordinator, and Smith are visiting colleges to give a COAM tutorial to faculty. They are starting with the three colleges with the largest number of cases: Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering.

Stephanie Elliott has joined the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) as the new Director of the College Credit Plus Program. Elliott joins OAA from University Exploration.

Ohio State will have its decennial affirmation of accreditation visit on March 1-2, 2027. In January 2025, OAA will convene a group to begin the process.

The 2025 University Assessment Conference will be on September 26, 2025.

Warren Flood, Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, is working with Smith to gather information on assessment at Ohio State. Flood is meeting with all the colleges to learn about their assessment culture.

Norman Jones, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, is surveying the colleges on experiential learning experiences available to students.

The Office of Academic Affairs is working with the Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI) Oversight Committee on next steps related to the revised SEI.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR ROB GREENBAUM

- **Update to the Bachelor of Music Education – College of Arts and Sciences**

The School of Music updated its Bachelor of Music Education (BME), adding EDUTL 5442 as a required course to align with the State's new science of reading standards. A reduction of one class within each BME degree track will allow students additional time in their schedules to accommodate the new requirement.

Greenbaum noted that this update is time-sensitive as the change is required by the State.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the embedded literacies for the Political Science BA, Political Science BS, and World Politics BA – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Political Science updated its embedded literacies for the following undergraduate programs: Political Science BA, Political Science BS, and World Politics BA. The Department removed three courses (PS 3170, PS 3905, and PS 4160) from the Advanced Writing embedded literacy and added a new course (PS 3549) to the Data Analysis embedded literacy.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Change to the MA and PhD Programs in Theatre – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts changed its Master of Arts and PhD programs in Theatre, reducing the required Theatre 8995 from 1 credit/semester, repeated two times, to 1 credit/semester, taken one time.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Linguistics major leading to the Bachelor of Arts – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Linguistics' updated its Linguistics major leading to the Bachelor of Arts, updating the list of courses fulfilling the subfields requirement.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Graduate Minor in Public Policy and Management and the Master of Public Administration and Leadership-Public Policy Specialization Program – John Glenn College of Public Affairs**

The John Glenn College of Public Affairs updates its Graduate Minor in Public Policy and Management and the Master of Public Administration and Leadership-Public Policy Specialization Program, adding PUBAFRS 7600 as an elective option.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

CENTER REVIEW: CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER – PROFESSOR TARA KING

Guest: Paul Bellair, Director, Criminal Justice Research Center; Steve Lopez, Associate Director, Criminal Justice Research Center

All university-level Centers will be reviewed by this Council two years after initial establishment and at four-year intervals thereafter. During the 2023-24 academic year, CAA Subcommittee C was tasked with conducting a four-year review of the Criminal Justice Research Center. Due to some unexpected delayed, the review process was not completed until Autumn 20204. Professor Tara King, former chair of Subcommittee C, is presenting the review on behalf of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee C based its review on the Criminal Justice Research Center (CJRC) self-study report, an interview with CJRC leadership, and a meeting with Divisional Dean Ryan King in the College of Arts and Sciences. Subcommittee C felt that the self-study was partially effective in the 5 key areas that are required: mission; faculty and student involvement and contribution; administrative structure and responsibilities; budget; and evaluative criteria and benchmarks. Subcommittee C felt improvement is needed in the areas of budget and evaluative criteria and benchmarks.

King noted that the College of Arts and Sciences leadership would like to transition the CJRC from a Center to a Collaborative.

Subcommittee C recommends that the CJRC receive conditional continuation and be reviewed again in two years. During that time, the Subcommittee encourages the Center to seek additional collaborative opportunities, diversify its financial support, and strengthen its data collection to more strongly documents its impact.

King invited Bellair and Lopez to make comments and/or corrections. Bellair clarified that while the College of Arts and Sciences would like CJRC to move to a Collaborative, the CJRC Oversight Committee is not supportive of this idea and views the move as a downgrade. Lopez added that the Covid pandemic impacted the work that could be done in recent years.

Bellair and Lopez expressed confusion over the Subcommittee's concern that the Center is not fully self-funded as it has always depended on support from the College. Bellair added that the Center can certainly look into more funding opportunities, but it is likely not realistic to have full funding in two years.

The Council felt that it was not appropriate to vote on the Subcommittee's recommendation until the Council has a better understanding of the direction that the College would like to take. The Council proposed delaying the vote until Smith and Sutherland can connect with King to discuss the College's desired plans and the Subcommittee's recommendations.

Sutherland moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved unanimously.

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE B – PROFESSORS NICOLE KWIEK, SAMANTHA HERRMANN, AND MIKE HOGAN; MS. MARGO COATES; MR. ANDREW MILES AND MS. ANGILMARIE RIVERA SANCHEZ

- **Proposal to revise the Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Engineering Program of Study – College of Engineering**

Guest: Betty Lise Anderson, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering proposes to revise the Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Engineering Program of Study.

The proposed changes are the result of a 2019 external review, which noted that the Computer Engineering Program of Study had very long prerequisite chains. The proposed changes should shorten the prerequisite chains for student and provide overall increased flexibility. Changes include the following: remove CHEM 1250 as a requirement; change two courses from required to elective; and create a set of domains from which students select electives, with the requirement that they take at least two courses in one domain for depth. The total number of required courses is reduced by 9 credit hours and the number of engineering elective hours is increase by 9 credit hours. There is no change to overall credit hours. Current students can choose to the new or legacy requirements.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

Sutherland moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved unanimously.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE C – PROFESSORS RUSSELL MARZETTE, ANN CHRISTY, NEAL HOOKER, AND TOM NELSON; MR. CHARLIE MACE

- **Proposal to revise the Biology BA, BS, and Minor – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guests: Adam Andrews, Assistant Director, Center for Life Science Education; Harold Fisk, Associate Director, Center for Life Science Education

The Center for Life Science Education (CLSE) in the College of Arts and Sciences proposes revising the Biology majors leading to the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science and the Biology minor.

Currently, all Biology major and minor students take Biology 3401 as a required core course. The course provides students with a case-study approach that allows students to integrate content from across the life sciences with mathematics, chemistry, and physics. The course is required of all Biology students. Biology 3401 is also the only course the program can guarantee that all Biology students will take as students take the remainder of their upper-level coursework across the four core life sciences departments (Molecular Genetics; Microbiology; Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology; and Chemistry and Biochemistry).

During the normal course assessment process, it as determined that Biology 3401 has too much content for a single course and aspects of the course are too advanced for a sophomore-level course. Thus, CLSE decided to split Biology 3401 into two new courses: Biology 3501 and Biology 4901. Biology 3501 will serve as a GE embedded literacy.

Biology 3401 will be offered for one more academic year (2025-26).

Marzette noted that these changes will impact a large number of students—approximately 600 per year.

Vankeerbergen informed the Council that the Vision Science major will also use Biology 3501 as a GE embedded literacy.

Adams confirmed that the Biology major is offered on three regional campuses: Lima, Marion, and Mansfield (proposed).

Sutherland moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved with one abstention.

Smith remarked to the Council that CLSE is one of the strongest centers on campus, administering one of the largest majors on campus.

- **Proposal to revise the Business Management Associate of Applied Science Program – College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

Guests: Carri Gerber, Assistant Director, Ohio State ATI; Jeanne Osborne, Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Ohio State ATI proposes to revise the Business Management Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Program.

The proposed changes to the Business Management AAS are a result of a systematic review of Ohio State ATI's AAS majors because of the University's GE revision as well as changing needs in industry and workforce. The proposed revisions will allow students to gain the ability to choose courses in interest areas by reducing the required credit hours to complete the major from 64 to 60 and removing courses that are not regularly offered. Updates were made to both specializations, Agricultural Business and General Business.

The Council asked how many students are enrolled in each specialization. Gerber responded that she did not have an exact number, but that the Agricultural Business specialization has a larger enrollment.

Smith asked Gerber and Osborne to tell the Council about the recent program revisions made by Ohio State ATI. Osborne responded that—while updating the AAS programs for the GE revision—ATI realized the AAS programs needed other updates. Some AAS programs had not been updated since 2014.

The Council asked how many majors are offered at Ohio State ATI. Osborne responded that ATI offers 26 majors.

Sutherland moved approval of the proposal; it was approved with one abstention.

Smith informed the Council that ATI used to be separately accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE A – PROFESSORS CARLOS CASTRO, ANN ALLEN, LEIGH BONDS, JOHN BUFORD, AND VALERIE WILLIAMS; MS. MYKENNA ROY AND MS. NATHAN SNIZIK

- **Proposal to establish the Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society – Office of Academic Affairs**

Guest: Lee Strang, Director, Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society

The Office of Academic Affairs proposes to establish the Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society.

Prior to Subcommittee A's presentation, Smith reminded the Council that there will only be a discussion today. The Council will vote on this proposal at its meeting on December 11, 2024.

Castro presented an overview of the establishment of the Center by the State legislature (Ohio Revised Code 3335.39) and the CAA review process.

The overall mission of the Chase Center is to conduct teaching and research in the historical idea, traditions, and texts that shaped the American constitutional order and society, aspiring to support Ohio State's mission of education for citizenship and to propel Ohio State to become a leader in the field of civic thought and leadership. The Center will carry out its mission in three primary domains:

- Curriculum development and teaching
- Multi-disciplinary research and dissemination in civic thought and leadership
- Public-facing programming and extracurricular student programming

The Chase Center's curricular focus will be the subject of American citizenship, including both self-government by individual American citizens and self-government of the American political community. The Center will initially focus on undergraduate education, developing a credit-bearing certificate, minor, and major in Civic Thought and Leadership. These and course proposals will follow the typical curricular process established by the Office of Academic Affairs.

To carry out its mission, the Center will hire 15 tenure-track faculty and engage faculty fellows from other units at Ohio State. Scholars will come from all disciplines adjacent to citizenship including, but not limited to law, politics, history, philosophy, economics, English, religious studies, and various hard sciences. The Center will follow hiring guidelines established by the Office of Academic Affairs. An ATP document will be developed following guidelines established by the Office of Academic Affairs.

The Center will host public-facing programs, such as lecture series and conference, which are intended to present students, faculty, and Ohioans with substantive discussions from a variety of viewpoints on topics related to civic thought and leadership.

The proposal includes a 5-year budget plan with income coming from three primary sources: support from the State of Ohio, tuition income, and development funds. The Center is currently supported by \$10 million in funding from the State allotted over two years (\$5 million per year). The Chase Center and relevant OSU offices anticipate continued State support after the initial two years.

The Center is lead by a Director who will report directly to the Executive Vice President and Provost. Strang is serving as the Inaugural Director. He is currently hiring an administrative team. A POA will be developed following guidelines established by the Office of Academic Affairs.

Letters of recommendation were received.

Subcommittee A would like clarification on the following topics:

- Definition of intellectual diversity
- Review and reporting schedule
- Clarification on donor transparency
- Student representation
- Assessment of public-facing programming

Strang responded that he will act in good faith with Ohio State policies, procedures, and collaborations. So far, there has been a collaborate path taken between the Chase Center and other offices at Ohio State.

Sutherland thanked Castro for the overview and report. She invited the Council to discuss the proposal. Much of the discussion was focused on developing the Appointments, Tenure and Promotion (APT) document, and budget concerns. Discussion will continue at the meeting on December 11, 2024. Smith will invite Brad Harris, Vice President for Budget and Resource Management, and Helen Malone, Vice Provost for Academic Policy and Faculty Resources, from OAA, to join the first 30-minutes to discuss the budget and APT aspects of the proposal, respectively.

The Meeting adjourned at 5 pm

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed