

## **COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**4140 University Square South**

**March 19, 2025**

**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. Joe Malinger (IPC, Law)
- ✓ Mr. Andrew Miles (CGS, Plant Pathology)
- ✓ Ms. Mykenna Roy (USG, Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Nathan Snizik (USG, International Studies)  
Ms. Emily Williams (IPC, Dentistry)

##### **Administrator:**

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

##### **Guests:**

Dr. Anika Anthony (Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning)  
Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Department of Speech and Hearing Science)  
Ms. Lisa Duffy (Office of the University Registrar)

Dr. Sandy Furterer (Department of Integrated Systems Engineering)  
Dr. Carri Gerber (Ohio State ATI)  
Mr. Cody Grabbe (Office of Undergraduate Admissions)  
Dr. Rob Greenbaum (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)  
Dr. Rob Griffiths (Ohio State Online)  
Ms. Erika Gunn (Office of University Exploration)  
Mr. Ryan Hunt (Office of the University Registrar)  
Dr. Tara King (College of Nursing)  
Ms. Lisa Kowalsky (Graduate School)  
Dr. Scott LaCross (Department of Marketing and Logistics)  
Dr. Maria Miriti (Graduate School)  
Ms. Jeanne Osborne (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)  
Ms. Lauren Pace (Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy)  
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonello (College of Engineering)  
Dr. Ruth Smith (Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy)  
Dr. Tasha Snyder (College of Education and Human Ecology)  
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)  
Dr. Deanna Wilkinson (Department of Human Sciences)  
Dr. Walter Zinn (Department of Marketing and Logistics)

**The meeting came to order at 3 PM**

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR SUE SUTHERLAND**

Sutherland attended the Faculty Cabinet meeting on March 7, 2025. At the meeting, there was a discussion around the Senate Diversity Committee considering Senate Bill 1 and the university's announcement on February 27, 2025.

Provost Bellamkonda will be invited to the Faculty Cabinet meeting on April 4, 2025, to discuss state and federal matters.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

There are several leadership searches underway at the university, including the Dean of the Fisher College of Business, Vice Dean of Education in the College of Medicine, and the Vice President and Chief Information Officer in the Office of Technology and Digital Innovation. Paula H. Song was recently announced as the next Dean of the College of Public Health.

The Neuroscience and Physical Therapy programs recently had site team visits related to an academic unit review and accreditation, respectively.

The Chase Center is developing undergraduate courses with the hope of offering them in Autumn 2025. The Center is meeting with the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) and the Office of the University Registrar to get the courses established in the university's curriculum systems.

On February 17, 2025, Smith hosted a meeting to discuss future leadership programming. The meeting included leadership from the following colleges: Arts and Sciences; Education and Human Ecology; Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences; and Public Affairs. Representatives from the Chase Center also attended.

The University Teacher Education Council (UTEC) is a subcommittee of this Council. UTEC provides leadership for educator preparation across the institution and is a venue for communication and discussion of policies, rules, and accreditation reviews. UTEC is co-chaired by Smith and Dean Pope-Davis. Smith will invite UTEC representatives to an upcoming Council meeting to present an overview of their work.

The University continues to focus on workforce development initiatives, building a stronger relationship with Columbus City Schools and creating an Information Technology Pathway with Columbus State Community College.

The Office of Academic Affairs hosted a first annual Transfer Conference on February 28, 2025. The conference looked at where transfer fits at the national-, state-, and institutional-levels. In addition to presentations from EAB (Educational Advisory Board) and the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), there was a lunch panel that focuses on transfer at the college-level.

ODHE and OAA are co-hosting two meetings this spring related to the OT36 Compliance and the Ohio Mathematics Initiative. Smith informed the Council that mathematics is often the stumbling block for transfer students.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

- **Revision to the Modern Greek Embedded Literacies – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Classics revised its Embedded Literacies (EL) for the Modern Greek major leading to the Bachelor of Arts, allowing Modern Greek courses to count towards the EL requirement. Previously, students completed the requirement outside the major.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Revisions to the Biology Major and Minor – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Center for Life Science Education updated the Biology Major and Minor. The following changes were made to the course lists:

	<b>Update to the List of Required Supporting Courses</b>	<b>Update to the list of Specialization Courses</b>	<b>Update to the list of Core Courses</b>	<b>Update to the list of Additional Required Courses</b>
<b>Biology BS—Forensics Biology Specialization</b>	X			
<b>Biology BS—Integrated General Biology Specialization</b>	X			
<b>Biology BS—Life Science Education Specialization</b>	X	X		
<b>Biology BS—Pre-Health Professions Specialization</b>	X	X		
<b>Biology BA—Forensic Biology Specialization:</b>	X			
<b>Biology BA—Integrated General Biology Specialization</b>	X			
<b>Biology BA—Life Science Education Specialization</b>	X	X		
<b>Biology BA—Pre-Health Professions Specialization</b>	X	X		
<b>Biology Minor</b>	X		X	X

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Revision to the Sport Industry major program – College of Education and Human Ecology**

The Department of Human Sciences revised the Sport Industry major leading to the Bachelor of Science in Education, adding KNSISM 3100 to the list of options under Group E Electives.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Adding Engineering Physics Specializations to SIS – College of Engineering**

The College of Engineering decided to add the following concentrations to the Student Information System (SIS) as subplans to the Engineering Physics major and pre-major plans:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Industrial Systems Engineering
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering

These subplans will appear of student transcripts.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Undergraduate Embedded Certificate and Undergraduate Minor in Signal Processing – College of Engineering**

The Department of Electrical and Computer Science revised the Undergraduate Embedded Certificate in Signal Processing and the Undergraduate Minor in Signal Processing, adding ECE 2020 as an alternative required course to ECE 2300.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Modification to the Specialized Masters in Finance – Fisher College of Business**

The Fisher College of Business modified its Specialized Master in Finance, moving two required courses (FIN 6221 and MHR 7263) from the first semester to the third semester of the program.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Establishment of an Early Assurance Program between Clark Atlanta University and the OSU College of Pharmacy – College of Pharmacy**

The College of Pharmacy established an Early Assurance Program (EAP) with Clark Atlanta University. Acceptance to the EAP program guarantees a Clark Atlanta University student's admission to Ohio State's Doctor of Pharmacy program.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Revision to the Doctor of Philosophy with a specialization in Health Services Management and Policy – College of Public Health**

The College of Public Health revised its PhD—Health Services Management and Policy Specialization, adding PUBHHMP 7688 as a required course. To offset this new requirement, the dissertation requirement will decrease from 9-20 credit hours to 6-17 credit hours.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

**PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE B – PROFESSORS NICOLE KWIEK, SAMANTHA HERRMANN, AND MIKE HOGAN; MS. MARGO COATES; MR. JOEL MALINGER, MR. ANDREW MILES, AND MS. EMILY WILLIAMS**

- **Proposal to establish a Professional Master of Systems Engineering – College of Engineering**

Guest: Sandy Furterer, Professor-Clinical, Department of Integrated Systems Engineering

The Department of Integrated Systems Engineering proposes to establish a Professional Master of Systems Engineering. This proposal has been reviewed by the Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs (GS/CAA) Combined Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council.

The proposed Master of Systems Engineering (MSE) degree is a professional program aimed at practicing engineers seeking to increase their systems engineering modeling, planning, and decision-making skills. MSE degrees are technically based programs that teach concepts, principles, tools, and methods to model and manage systems engineering projects and programs in an engineering setting. The coursework is designed to develop an understanding of how to manage and model complex systems, collaborate with teams of customers, stakeholders, and all engineering disciplines; to define and achieve systems requirements; and to integrate the people, processes, and technology of complex systems.

Participants must complete a minimum of 30-credit hours (15-credit hours of the required core, 12-credit hours of electives, and 3-credit hours of a capstone). Students can be enrolled full-time or part-time. The program is offered fully online.

All courses are already offered by the Department. Some courses may need to be converted to online.

The Department worked with Ohio State Online on market research. There is a clear demand for the program with no program competition in Ohio. The Department anticipates an initial enrollment of 10-20 students with the potential to grow to 30-50 students afterward.

Subcommittee B noted that there is an assessment framework, but that qualitative and/or quantitative markers should be added.

Furterer informed the Council that the title of the program conveys the technical focus of the degree.

The Council asked if the capstone must focus on industry. Furterer replied that most students will focus on industry, but that there is no rule against doing a research capstone.

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

Smith informed the Council that this proposal will need to be reviewed and approved by the University Senate, Board of Trustees, and the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

#### **PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS SUE SUTHERLAND AND W. RANDY SMITH**

- **Proposal to revise the Power Equipment AAS and corresponding deactivation of the Hydraulic Power and Motion Control AAS – College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

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

Ohio State ATI proposes to revise the Power Equipment AAS (Associate of Applied Science) and corresponding deactivation of the Hydraulic Power and Motion Control AAS.

The proposed changes are the result of an industry needs assessment and a consultation with the program's advisory committee. The proposed changes to the Power Equipment AAS include the following:

- A change in the program's name to the Power and Hydraulic Engineering Technologies AAS
- Updates to existing courses
- Inclusion of program goals for hydraulic power program
- Reduction in the total number of credit hours from 63 to 61

The Hydraulic Power and Motion Control AAS will be deactivated as much of its content is redundant with the Power Equipment AAS and the remaining content will be moved to the updated Power and Hydraulic Engineering Technologies AAS. Students currently in the Hydraulic Power and Motion Control AAS will be able to complete the program.

Osborne noted that course numbers are being updated because of their change in credit hours. This is a best practice set by the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of the University Registrar to avoid issues with transfer courses.

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

- **Proposal to establish a Strategic Sales Certificate – Fisher College of Business**

Guests: Scott LaCross, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing and Logistics; Walter Zinn, Chair, Department of Marketing and Logistics

The Department of Marketing and Logistics proposes to establish an undergraduate Strategic Sales Certificate (category 1a).

The Strategic Sales Certificate (SSC) is designed to address the increasing demand for skilled sales professionals in today's competitive business environment. The primary goal of the program is to position the Fisher College of Business (FCOB) as a leader in sales education by equipping students with the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in professional sales. Effective sales skills are essential for organizational success, and the employment of sales managers is project to increase by 6% over the next ten years.

Participants must complete a minimum of 12-credit hours. Students select from BUSML 3150 or 3250, both of which have prerequisites. The other three courses are required for all participants (BUSML 4223, BUSML 4224, and BUSML 4225)

The certificate is only open to FCOB majors and students participating in the Business Minor. LaCross added that all FCOB majors earn the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a specialization in their major.

The Council asked how accrediting bodies feel about certificates. Zinn responded that he was not sure, but that many peer programs offer certificates.

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

- **Proposal to establish an online option for the Human Development and Family Science major leading to the BS in HDFS – College of Education and Human Ecology**

Guest: Deanna Wilkinson, Associate Professor, Department of Human Sciences

The Department of Human Sciences proposes to establish an online option for the Human Development and Family Science major leading to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Human Development and Family Science (HDFS). The online option will be offered in addition to the in-person option.



A recent analysis by Ohio State Online (OSO) identified a growing need for flexible learning options that cater to the diverse needs of the student population. The online HDFS is designed to meet this demand by offering a curriculum that can be accessed 100% remotely, allowing students to balance their academic pursuits with personal and professional responsibilities.

The online HDFS will leverage advanced educational technologies and pedagogical strategies to ensure that students receive the same rigorous and engaging learning experience as they would in a traditional classroom setting. Faculty have been and will continue to deliver high-quality instruction and support in the online environment.

There is an MOU with OSO.

The desired effective term is Autumn 2025.

Dr. Robert Griffiths (OSO) clarified to the Council that the online option as written in the proposal is only available to transfer students. A revision will need to be submitted if the program wants to admit students directly into the program. Wilkinson added that most HDFS students are internal transfers. HDFS students are not admitted directly into the major.

Wilkinson informed the Council that most HDFS faculty already teach online courses, and most courses are already offered online. The program and its faculty have a lot of experience in the online environment.

The Council expressed concern over if there are enough online GE courses to fulfill the GE requirement. Wilkinson responded that there are enough online GE courses, but students will be limited in their choice. She added that courses can also be completed at a community college and transferred for OSU credit.

Wilkinson remarked that the Department wanted to create a transfer-friendly program for non-traditional students.

The Council asked if the courses are offered in a synchronous or asynchronous format. Wilkinson responded that all courses except one are offered asynchronously.

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

Smith asked Griffiths to give the Council a brief overview of the current state of online programs at Ohio State. Griffiths responded that OSU only offers a few online undergraduate completion programs—mostly in the health sciences. The College of Social Work is now offering an online option and has quickly become a leader in the field. Many pursuing an online Social Work degree are non-traditional students.

Smith added that many traditional, 4-year institutions are struggling with how to handle online education. Many are going the program completion route like Ohio State.

The Council asked if programs are required to work with OSO on online programs. Griffiths responded that programs do need to complete an MOU with OSO. From there, programs can decide on their level of support from OSO.

- **Proposal to establish a combined BA/AuD degree program – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: Eric Bielefeld, Chair, Department of Speech and Hearing Science

The Department of Speech and Hearing Science proposes to establish a Bachelor of Arts / Doctor of Audiology (BA / AuD) degree program. This proposal has been reviewed by the Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs (GS/CAA) Combined Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council.

Currently, the only pathway a student has through both the BA and AuD at Ohio State is a consecutive 4+4 pathway in which the student completes the BA and then moves into the AuD program after completing their undergraduate degree. The proposed combined degree will be completed in seven years (3+4 year) rather than the traditional eight years (4+4 years).

Students will complete three years of the BA curriculum and matriculate into the four-year AuD program. The BA degree would be conferred at the end of Year 1 of the AuD program. As such, the time to degree for the BA/AuD would be lessened by one year.

There is no change to program content. Students in the combined degree program will take all the BA degree requirements except for an Introduction to Audiology course and two upper division elective courses. The content of these courses will be covered in the AuD program.

The BA/AuD program is designed for a small group of students each year (up to 4) who attend Ohio State with the plan to study audiology. Many students discover audiology later in their academic career. The 3+4 program will not benefit these students.

The combined degree program will help with recruitment as it will lessen time to degree and cost.

This is the first BA/AuD program in the United States.

Bielefeld confirmed that there will be a high number of credits in years 1-3 of the program. Students will need to take summer courses in both the traditional AuD program and the combined BA/AuD program.

Bielefeld informed the Council that students can apply credits to the Master of Arts in Speech and Hearing Science should they need to exit the AuD program early.

The Council asked if students would pay graduate tuition for the entire AuD portion of the combined degree. Bielefeld responded that students would pay undergraduate tuition for the first year of the AuD (until the BA is earned).

The Council asked if students in the combined program get an advantage as far as graduate admissions and/or assistantships. Bielefeld responded that students still must apply and be admitted to the AuD program. The Department has very little financial support for AuD students and there is no advantage for BA/AuD students.

Bielefeld confirmed that the Department is supportive of students working during the program. In fact, the Department has lumped courses together to allow for easier work schedules.

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

- **Proposal to revise the MA in Art Education – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guests: Lauren Pace, Academic Program Specialist, Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy; Ruth Smith, Assistant Professor-Clinical, Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy

The Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy proposes to revise the Master of Arts in Art Education. This proposal has been reviewed by the Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs (GS/CAA) Combined Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council.

The proposed revisions are a result of feedback from faculty and students. The program was originally designed for practicing art teachers, but more students are pursuing alternative forms of art education including museum and community settings. The proposed changes are being made to expand the focus of the program: addition of ARTEDUC 7708 as a required course; reduction in the overall number of required courses from 18- to 12-credit hours; and the expansion of the number of electives from 6-credit hours to 12-credit hours.

There are no negative impacts on current students.

The Department would like the proposed changes to go into effect in Autumn 2025.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

## **STATEMENT FROM THE COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS – MR. ANDREW MILES**

Miles asked for the opportunity to share the following statement from the Council of Graduate Students:

“With the closure of ODI, driven by federal and state legislation, we, The Council of Grad Students, recognize its potential impact on academic affairs. We strongly encourage CAA to assess how the elimination and sundowning of this office and its programs, alongside the

removal of DEI initiatives, may affect the quality of education for professional, graduate, and undergraduate students in both qualitative and quantitative ways.

CAA has a duty to ensure that all academic programming, inside and outside the classroom, upholds our mission of delivering a high-quality education and preparing a globally competitive workforce. Academic affairs are the foundational of any university, and this issue is critical to our upcoming reaccreditation process. It would be not in alignment with our mission not to examine the impact of this closure on educational quality and identify solutions for any gaps that exist due to the removal of programs, initiatives, or services. CGS has serious concerns about these implications and look forward to updates from CAA. For the record, I respectfully request unanimous consent to submit these remarks as spoken into the meeting minutes.”

Sutherland called for a motion to include the statement in the minutes of the meeting on March 19, 2025. The motion was seconded.

Smith will inform the Office of Academic Affairs of this statement.

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

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

There are two more Council meetings during the regular academic year. Reed will be in touch soon to schedule summer meetings.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith  
Katie Reed