

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 BRICKER HALL

June 20, 2007

2:30-4:30 pm

MINUTES

Present:

Professors: Sheryl Barringer, Daniel E. Collins, Lora Gingerich Dobos, Richard P. Gunther, E. Kay Halasek, Nancy Reynolds, W. Randy Smith (Vice Chair), George J. Valco, Brian L. Winer (Chair)

Student Members: Jane Evans (Council of Graduate Students);

Guests: Professor Matthew Platz, Vice Provost, Office of Academic Affairs; Jed Dickhaut, Associate Registrar, Office of the University Registrar; Professor William Liddle and Charles Smith, Department of Political Science; Dr. Penny Reighart, Assistant Dean, College of Education and Human Ecology; Professors Harvey Graff and Lewis Ulman, Department of English, Steve Acker, School of Communication, Susan Fisher, Department of Entomology, and Susan Hanson, Doctoral Student, Department of English.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR BRIAN L. WINER

- Winer informed the Council that Summer meetings will be scheduled soon.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR - PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- Smith informed the Council that he has interacted with the University Senate Office to ensure that the 5 faculty members (Beatty, Gunther, Reynolds, Valco and Winer) who are leaving Council this year will be replaced quickly. Three new appointments have been made already and Winer has agreed to return for one more year to finish Reynolds' term. One other Presidential appointment will need to be made soon. Council members expressed their congratulations and thanks to Reynolds - who soon will leave for a new appointment at Yale University. Council members also congratulated Evans on receipt of her doctoral degree at the Spring 2007 Commencement.
- The Office of Research is requesting use of the term “institute” for the **Institute for Energy and the Environment**. Smith presented the proposal. The rationale was deemed appropriate - such a designation will help it attract external funding.

Council members had no objections. The proposal will be sent to the Board of Trustees for action at its meeting on July 13, 2007. Smith clarified that “use of the term institute” and formal “academic institute” status are not the same. Should the Office of Research want academic institute status for this initiative, then a formal proposal will need to be submitted to the Council for review and action.

- Smith gave an update on his recent visit to Washington DC for a meeting of the urban serving universities. Nancy Zimpher, President, University of Cincinnati, is leading an initiative within the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) that would give increased attention to urban issues, specifically, Human Capital, Economic Development and Urban Health. We have been asked to become a formal participant in this initiative and the University is considering it.

PROPOSAL FOR A GRADUATE INTERDISCIPLINARY SPECIALIZATION IN LITERACY STUDIES – PROFESSOR NANCY REYNOLDS, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE A

Reynolds informed the Council that Subcommittee A reviewed the proposal for a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Literacy Studies. Written responses to its questions were received from Professor Harvey Graff. Subcommittee A was satisfied with the response and recommends approval of the proposal.

DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSOR HARVEY J. GRAFF, OHIO EMINENT SCHOLAR IN LITERACY STUDIES, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The term literacy is used across disciplines and fields (computer literacy, mathematical literacy, scientific literacy) with somewhat varying meanings, leaving traditional literacy (reading and writing) with the more restricted term “verbal literacy.” Even with verbal literacy, meanings and uses range widely across cultures, societies, and historical periods defying easy categorization. This proposal for a GIS in Literacy Studies responds to the conjuncture of a number of intellectual and educational currents and their attendant pressures on universities such as ours. In order to address those factors effectively, the proposed GIS is broadly interdisciplinary, drawing from and seeking to contribute to the disciplines of the humanities (history, linguistics, literary studies, languages, comparative studies), the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, economics, psychology including human development and cognitive studies), the arts, communication, and education most directly, but also from human ecology, biological sciences, and biomedical sciences (perception, consciousness, neuroscience).

The emerging sense in the review and revision of our general education program and across the United States is that literacy and literacy studies are broadly and centrally important conceptually and practically, in programmatic goals and orientations, and in specific course requirements. There are two core courses required for all students in this GIS. Each elective concentration has a required core course. The required core courses

provide an orientation and introduction to the program and students options including the six concentrations articulated in the proposal. Few new elective courses are being developed. Two courses in Health and Medical Literacy and Scientific Literacy have begun the formal approval process.

Students in the GIS will have a GIS advisor. Initially Professors Graff and Marcia Farr will serve as advisors with other faculty in the Literacy Studies joining them as needed. Advisors will be in contact with their peers throughout the university through Literacy Studies @ OSU and through GIS activities. A student's concentration will be indicated on her/his transcript. It will not be possible for a student to select all courses from any one discipline. Cross-listing will promote cross- and interdisciplinary program development.

Professor David Bloome, School of Teaching and Learning, was invited to participate in the GIS program but preferred to pursue his own activities within Education's well-known focus on literacy, rather than having his activities be under the umbrella of the campus-wide endeavor.

Since the submission of the proposal, Marcy Raymond, Principal of the new Metro School, and Kevin Tavin, Associate Professor, Art Education, among others, have joined the Literacy Studies executive and advisor groups.

There were no further questions from the Council

Subcommittee A moved approval of the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Literacy Studies. It was seconded by Gunther and passed with one abstention.

PROPOSAL TO REVISE THE UNDEEGRADUATE MINOR, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE – PROFESSOR NANCY REYNOLDS, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE A

Reynolds informed the Council that Subcommittee A reviewed the proposal to revise the minor to provide a series of focused minors that will accommodate the interests and needs of students from a variety of majors and will allow students to gain foundational knowledge in various sub-fields of political science in preparation for their post-college careers. The Subcommittee discussed the proposal and recommends approval.

DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSOR WILLIAM LIDDLE AND CHARLES SMITH, INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Liddle gave a summary of the proposal. The current minor is outdated - 25 credit hours of course work taken at the 200-level or above. Of these courses, 15 hours must be taken at the 500-level or above. As currently constituted, this minor allows students to assemble a mix of courses and even use general education curriculum (GEC) courses to complete the minor. The revised minor will have six focused minors in political science and a general minor. It will provide a series of focused minors in Campaigns and

Elections, Comparative Politics, Judicial Politics, Political Decision Making, Political Theory, and World Politics that will accommodate the interests and needs of students from a variety of majors and also will allow students to gain foundational knowledge in various sub-fields of political science in preparation for their post-college careers. The required course in all minors will be Political Science 503. The general minor will be tailored to students' interests through advisement. Students choosing one of the focused minors would be allowed to overlap courses with the GEC where applicable.

Did students request this revision? No. The various tracks will appear on a student's transcript. Graduated students were polled and they indicated that they prefer a more focused minor.

There were no further questions.

Subcommittee A moved approval of the proposal and it was seconded by Halasek. The motion passed unanimously.

PROFESSORS BRIAN L. WINER AND W. RANDY SMITH – SUBCOMMITTEE D

- **REVISION TO THE UNDERGRADUATE MINOR – DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**

Winer gave a summary of the proposal. The proposal is to revise the Statistics minor by changing 500-600 level courses to 400-500 level courses. The revision also includes deleting STAT 632, 635, 663, 673 and adding 451, B615, 662, 674, and 675.

With the proposed changes in the minor, students who obtain the statistics minor may now also be eligible to obtain a Masters in Applied Statistics (MAS) with one additional academic year of coursework. The grade requirements for students pursuing the MAS in Statistics degree are: a minimum B- for a course to be listed in the MAS degree and a minimum 3.0 cumulative point hour ratio.

There were no further questions.

Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Gunther and passed unanimously.

- **RECONFIGURE THE CORE CURRIICULUM - DEPARMENT OF INDUSTRIAL, INTERIOR, & VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN**

Winer gave a summary of the proposal. The proposal requests the following changes:

- Design 160 was renumbered to Design 200 and additional content added and credit hours increased from 3 to 5 hours;
- Courses Design 199, Engineering Graphics 121 and 122 were replaced by new courses Design 201, 202, and 203;
- Added to the Core a 3-D modeling course.
- Design 603 replaces Art 205;
- offer greater flexibility in the “other” category for the major by allowing students to choose from a variety of suggested free electives.

Have the changes to replace Design 199, Engineering Graphics 121 and 122 been discussed with Engineering Graphics? No answer to this issue was forthcoming and so the proposal was tabled until next Council meeting.

DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE REVIEW OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION – PROFESSORS BRIAN L. WINER AND W. RANDY SMITH – SUBCOMMITTEE D

- **College of Education and Human Ecology**

Winer gave an overview of the revised BS template submitted by the College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE). The University Senate, at its May 10, 2007 meeting, and the Board of Trustees at its June 1, 2007 meeting approved the reduction of 5 hours of GEC and 5 hours from electives. However, EHE is able to reduce 5 elective hours for 7 programs in Human Ecology (programs 1-7 in the College proposal), but unable to do so for programs related to the programs for the Bachelor of Science (programs 8-13 in the College proposal). The EHE Curriculum Committee indicated that given more time, they could develop ways to reduce hours for BSED programs.

Council members expressed the need to see detailed information of licensure restrictions to understand this situation more fully.

DISCUSSION WITH DR. PENNY REIGHART, ASSISTANT DEAN, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

Reighart gave a summary of their revised BS Template proposal. At its June 7, 2007 meeting, the EHE Curriculum Committee decided that all programs under a degree should have the same number of total credit hours. All 7 programs under the three Human Ecology bachelor’s degrees have sufficient electives to reduce by 5 credit hours. With this reduction, elective hours under these programs will vary from 0-32 and the total minimum credit hours would be reduced to 181.

The 6 programs (8 -13 in the proposal), under the BSED would not be reduced by 5 elective hours based on teacher licensure restrictions. Although some programs could be reduced by 5 elective hours, not all programs can do so. The Education program can only be reduced by 5 hours bringing the total hours to graduate to 191 hours. The Curriculum Committee further noted that given time to conduct more complete program reviews, proposals are likely to be developed to reduce hours to the BSED program.

Which programs that can come down under BSED? Exercise Science and Special Education could do so.

Why does the Curriculum Committee want all programs under a degree to have the same hours to graduate? The Curriculum Committee wants consistency in hours in all degrees, but programs could have variations among them. Reighart indicated that she requested every program leader to give input but very few responded. The Curriculum Committee is interested in reducing hours to graduate, but needs more time. The Ohio Department of Education also reviews their programs and has to provide approval to make any changes.

Council members indicated that they needed more information and justification on licensure restrictions before approving the BSED programs (8-13 in the proposal). The Human Ecology programs can move forward and implement their proposals, but the others cannot.

Subcommittee D moved to approve programs 1-7, and it was seconded by Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee D moved not to approve programs 8-13. It was seconded by Gunther. The motion passed unanimously.

Smith and Halasek will meet with the college leadership on revisions to the proposals that were not approved at this meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Lakshmi Dutta