

## **COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**200 Bricker Hall**

**October 16, 2019**

**3-5 PM**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Attendance**

##### **Faculty:**

- ✓ Dr. Rebecca Andridge (Public Health)
- ✓ Dr. Anika Anthony (Educational Studies)
- ✓ Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Speech and Hearing Sciences), Co-Chair
- ✓ Dr. Kevin Evans (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)  
Dr. Sara Fowler (College of Dentistry)
- ✓ Dr. Jennifer Higginbotham, Co-Chair (English)  
Dr. Roberto Myers (Materials Science and Engineering)  
Dr. Melvin Pascall (Food Science and Technology)
- ✓ Dr. Maria Pruchnicki (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Paul Rose (College of Law)
- ✓ Dr. Karl Whittington (Department of History of Art)

##### **Staff:**

- ✓ Mr. Peter Spreitzer (University Exploration)

##### **Students:**

- ✓ Mr. Nat Crowley (USG, Finance)
- ✓ Mr. Ryan Slechta (CGS, Computer Science and Engineering)
- ✓ Mr. Blake Szkoda (CGS, Chemistry and Biochemistry)
- ✓ Mr. Sridhar Uppalapati (USG, Engineering Physics)  
Mr. William Vu (IPC, Dentistry)

##### **Administrator:**

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

##### **Guests:**

Dr. Michael Bisesi (College of Public Health)  
Ms. Danielle Brown (College of Education and Human Ecology)  
Dr. Emily Buck (Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership)  
Dr. Steve Fink (College of Arts and Sciences)

Dr. Paul Granello (Department of Educational Studies)  
Ms. Jill Hampshire (Office of Student Academic Success)  
Ms. Christi Harkins (Office of the University Registrar)  
Dr. Alan Kalish (Office of Academic Affairs)  
Dr. Marcus Kurtz (Undergraduate International Studies Program)  
Dr. Tony Luscher (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)  
Dr. Andrew Martin (Office of Academic Affairs)  
Dr. Jeanne Osborne (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)  
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonnello (College of Engineering)  
Dr. Pat Sieber (Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures)

**The meeting came to order at 3:01 p.m.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CO-CHAIR – PROFESSOR JENNIFER HIGGINBOTHAM**

Higginbotham had no comments.

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

The Council's annual dinner with Provost McPheron is tonight from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Faculty Club.

Professor Andrew Martin, Department of Sociology, is serving as Associate Vice Provost in the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA). He will work closely with Smith on statewide work and other academic program initiatives.

In addition to their work on this Council, Andridge and Bielefeld are serving as faculty fellows in the Office of Academic Affairs. Andridge is focusing on next steps with online education and Bielefeld is focusing on College Credit Plus.

The proposal to establish a Professional Science Masters in Translational Data Analytics was approved by the University Senate at its meeting on September 19, 2019. It will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on November 20, 2019.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education approved the proposal to establish a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology (BSET). The BSET will be made available in Autumn 2020 at the regional campuses. Smith will inform the Higher Learning Commission about the new degree.

The annual University Assessment Conference was on October 4, 2019 at the Ohio Union. The 2020-21 conference will be on November 16, 2020.

The first Sesquicentennial Summit was held October 15, 2019. Over 400 people registered for the event. The day's theme was Reimagining Teaching and Learning. The second Sesquicentennial Summit will be on January 28, 2020. Its focus will be on the University's urban mission.

The following have had recent academic program reviews: Electrical and Computer Engineering; Undergraduate International Studies Program; Economics; Sociology, and; Architecture.

Smith attended and presented at the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Peer Review Training in St. Charles, IL on October 10-11, 2019. There were over 200 participants trained by 10 established reviewers. Ohio State has several people on campus who are peer reviewers. Contact Smith if you have an interested in becoming a peer reviewer.

HLC's Jeff Rosen, Vice President for Accreditation Relations and Director of Open Pathway, will visit campus on November 12, 2019 to discuss competency-based education.

Ohio State reaffirmed its relationship with Columbus State Community College (CSCC) at its Board of Trustees meeting on August 29, 2019. CSCC did the same at its Board of Trustees meeting on September 26, 2019.

The Council should expect an update from the General Education Implementation Committee at some point during the 2019-20 academic year. There are over 100 people involved with the committee and subcommittees.

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

The College of Engineering would like to change the title of the non-credit, online certificate of completion course *Planning and Zoning Fundamentals for Professionals* be changed to *Municipal Planning and Zoning Fundamentals*.

The title change is based on feedback and inquiries received from students and faculty. The change should better represent who the program is for and reach all of the potential participants.

No other changes are being made to the course.

The Council did not express any concerns.

#### **PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS JENNIFER HIGGINBOTHAM AND W. RANDY SMITH**

- **Proposal to establish a new graduate certificate in Mechanical Design and Simulation – College of Engineering**

Guest: Tony Luscher, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

The Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering proposes to establish a new graduate certificate in Mechanical Design and Simulation. This proposal has been reviewed by the Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs (GS/CAA) Combined Curriculum Committee.

The Mechanical Design and Simulation (MDS) certificate program is focused on developing design and simulation skills and is intended to attract practicing engineers from local and Ohio based industries. Innovative structural design principles, coupled with advanced simulation methodologies can be key to improving existing products and streamlining the development of new products. These skills will make students more marketable and Ohio businesses more competitive.

Applicants will be expected to have an undergraduate degree in an engineering discipline and coursework in statistics, dynamics, and strength of materials which forms the fundamental knowledge basis for this program. Applicants with industrial experience which duplicated this coursework can petition for admission.

The MDS certificate will have two tracks: the Mechanical Design track and the Simulation and Analysis track. The certificate requires a minimum of 12 credit hours. No specific courses are required. Instead, students are able to choose classes from a list of approved courses. The only requirement is that students select at least one course from each of the tracks.

The department expects that it will take working professional two years to complete the certificate.

In the beginning, the certificate will only be offered in-person. The department may move to an online offering at a later date.

The Council asked if there is a time limit for students to complete the certificate. Luscher responded that there is no time limit.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

- **Proposal for a new graduate certificate in College and University Teaching – College of Education and Human Ecology**

Guest: Alan Kalish, Assistant Vice Provost, Office of Academic Affairs

The Department of Educational Studies proposes to create a new graduate certificate in College and University Teaching. This proposal has been reviewed by the GS/CAA Combined Curriculum Committee.

The Category 3b certificate program will allow graduate students to engage in a rigorous, structured exploration of theories and practices of university-level teaching and to develop skills and experience that enable them to become reflective, scholarly teachers as they prepare to enter the professoriate.

The certificate will replace the existing Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in College Teaching. The interdisciplinary requirements for the GIS make it very difficult from students in the College of Education and Human Ecology to participate in the specialization. If the new graduate certificate is approved, a proposal to deactivate the GIS will follow.

The certificate requires a minimum of 13 credits. Students will take one required core course (3 credits), disciplinary teaching courses (2-4 credits), mentored teaching courses (2 credits), and electives (6 credits). Kalish noted that the mentoring experience is typically in parallel with a student's graduate teaching associate (GTA) appointment. If a student does not have a GTA appointment, there are alternative possibilities.

The Council asked what happens if there is no discipline-specific course available. Kalish replied that an individual studies course would be created.

The GIS required five courses, but that requirement does not exist for certificates. The Council asked if the proposers considered decreasing the number of required credit hours with the move from a GIS to a certificate. Kalish responded that the idea was discussed and it could happen in the future, after the certificate is assessed.

The Council asked if pedagogy experience is required for the course instructors. Kalish responded that there is no pedagogy experience required beyond what is required for their faculty position.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

- **Proposal for a new graduate certificate in Environmental Public Health Risk Assessment – College of Public Health**

Guest: Michael Bisesi, Senior Associate Dean, College of Public Health

The College of Public Health proposes to create a new graduate certificate in Environmental Public Health Risk Assessment. This proposal has been reviewed by the GS/CAA Combined Curriculum Committee.

The Category 3A certificate will prepare learners to conduct and interpret qualitative and quantitative risk assessments of human diseases resulting from exposures to chemical and infectious microbial agents. The certificate is designed for both working professionals and current graduate students.

The certificate requires a minimum of 15 credit hours. Students will take three required foundation courses (9 credits) plus two selective courses (6 credits).

The certificate is not currently available online.

Bisesi noted that there is a need for people who can do environmental health risk assessment because there are increased environmental health risks. This will be one of the few programs in the country that addresses both toxic chemical agents and infectious microbial agents.

The Council asked if the college expects more current graduate students or working professionals to enroll in the certificate. Bisesi responded that he expects more graduate students to enroll.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward with one abstention.

- **Proposal to create an embedded undergraduate certificate in Wellness – College of Education and Human Ecology**

Guest: Paul Granello, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies

The Department of Education Studies proposes to create an embedded undergraduate certificate in Wellness. The certificate is a collaboration with the College of Nursing.

The Category 1B certificate will allow undergraduates to engage in a rigorous, structured exploration of theories and practices of wellness (self and discipline specific) while developing skills and experience that enable them to become more reflective, wellness-focused professionals as they prepare to enter any career. The certificate will enable a student to achieve an enhanced state of optimal well-being, happiness, and resiliency that will ultimately be emulated in their profession.

The certificate requires a minimum of 12 credit hours. Students will take 9 credits of required core courses and 3 credits of electives.

Courses are currently offered in the hybrid format. An MOU with the Office of Distance Education and eLearning is not required until the certificate is offered fully online.

The Council asked if the certificate is a professional development tool or for personal enrichment. Granello responded that the certificate is the former. Students will be able to develop a wellness plan that they can apply to clients. Granello also clarified that the certificate is not about mental health treatment, but wellness training. A person trained in wellness can screen a person before he/she seeks mental health treatment. Evans responded that the wellness industry is exploding and this sort of training is very much needed.

The Council asked if the non-Education and Human Ecology colleges are aware that their courses are part of this certificate. Granello responded in the affirmative.

Granello stated that the department would like to see its courses count towards the general education curriculum.

Andridge commented that she can see many students interested in the certificate, including students in the College of Public Health and the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward with one abstention.

- **Proposal to create a Translation and Interpretation Certificate – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: Pat Sieber, Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures

The Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures proposed to establish a Translation and Interpretation Certificate.

The Category 1a certificate will prepare students to compete for professional credentials in the field of Translation and Interpretation including the credentials offered by national certification bodies. The certificate is designed for undergraduate students enrolled at Ohio State.

The certificate requires a minimum of 12 credit hours. Students will take two required core courses (6 credit hours) and two elective courses (6 credit hours). A total of 6 credit hours completed in the certificate program may be applied to the major/minor.

Sieber noted that the certificate was developed by many faculty in the foreign language departments. In the future, the center plans to develop parallel graduate and workforce certificates.

The Council noted that proficiency in language is required, but no specific language courses are required. Proficiency will be verified by a student's course background and/or placement exam.

Slechta asked if there is ambiguity between this certificate and the certification that is offered by a professional organization such as the American Sign Language Teachers Association. To prevent any confusion, the Council suggested that the center add an asterisk in any advertisement that will clarify the type of certification.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

Smith noted that this is the second certificate from the College of Arts and Sciences. Fink informed the Council that there are six more being developed/reviewed.

- **Proposal to change the language requirement for the International Studies BA – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: Marcus Kurtz, Director, Undergraduate International Studies Program

The Undergraduate International Studies Program (UISP) proposes to revise the language requirement for the International Studies BA.

From 2012 to 2019, UISP students could fulfill the language requirement through the completion of a minor degree in a foreign language. Prior to 2012, this requirement was structured to require the completion of intermediate-level course work in a single foreign language (understood to be two full academic years of study). UISP would like to join these requirements and give students the option of fulfilling their language co-requisite either through the completion of a minor, or through completion of two years of language study in a single language.

This change will create greater flexibility for UISP students. The minor requirement from 2012-19 created many unintentional issues for students, including what languages students could pursue to fulfill the requirement. In particular, it will allow students to take “rare” languages that are not offered as a minor or major at Ohio State.

The Council asked if there are any concerns about the differences between the requirements of the BA and BS. Kurtz replied that UISP plans to do extensive revisions of the BS.

The Council asked what constitutes two years of language study. Kurtz replied that the program relies on the language departments for screening of proficiency. The Council suggested adding the following language to the requirement: “two years of course work *or equivalent proficiency*.”

Kurtz noted that advising is key in this program.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

Smith remarked the UISP has a long-history as one of the strongest majors at Ohio State. The program just underwent an external evaluation. This Council should expect changes to the program based on external evaluator feedback.

- **Proposal to revise the Agricultural Communication Minor – College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

Guests: Emily Buck, Professor, Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership; Jeanne Osborne, Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences



The Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership proposes to revise the Agricultural Communication minor.

Following large-scale revisions to the Agricultural Communication (AGRCOMM) major curriculum, the department proposes the following changes to the AGRCOMM minor:

- Division of minor coursework into three categories: required, design, and elective courses
- New courses added to minor requirements or electives
- Removal of non-AGRCOMM courses from the list of possible electives
- Number of total credits changes from 14-15 to 15

These changes should make scheduling easier for students and allow them to graduate earlier.

Osborne confirmed that the department notified outside units that their courses are no longer prerequisites.

The Council asked how many students are typically enrolled in the minor. Osborne responded that there are approximately 30 students.

The Council noted that a student could fulfill the minor's requirements by taking mainly 2000-level courses. Osborne responded that advising will watch for this. Since there are only a few instructors who teach the AGRCOMM classes, the faculty work closely with students.

Higginbotham moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

#### **GE UPDATE – PROFESSORS ERIC BIELEFELD AND W. RANDY SMITH**

Bielefeld and Smith asked the Council if there were any questions about the general education implementation process.

Whittington said that he heard a rumor that there will be no fourth theme. Bielefeld and Smith responded that this is not true. There will be at least one-two more themes. There are many discussions occurring around the approval and review of themes.

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS – W. RANDY SMITH**

There are still issues with operationalizing certificates. The curricular deans will be discussing this at an upcoming meeting of the Academic Programs Advisory Council.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith  
Katie Reed