

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Ohio Union
Student-Alumni Council Room

January 10, 2024
3-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ 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)
- ✓ Dr. Wendy Hesford (Department of English)
Dr. Tara King (College of Nursing)
- ✓ Dr. Nicole Kwiek (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Fábio Leite (Department of Psychology)
- ✓ Dr. Berry Lyons (School of Earth Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Russell Marzette (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Thomas Nelson (Department of Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. Sue Sutherland (Department of Human Sciences)

Staff:

- ✓ Ms. Margo Coates (College of Dentistry)

Students:

- Ms. Emily Johnson (USG, Sociology)
- ✓ Mr. Charlie Mace (CGS, Physics)
- ✓ Ms. Carrie Anne Thomas (CGS, Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Ms. Ashley Swisshelm (CGS, Pharmacy)

Administrator:

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

Guests:

Mr. Chris Adams (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
Mr. Aaron Bagent (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Ms. Lisa Duffy (Office of the University Registrar)
Dr. Rob Griffiths (Ohio State Online)

Dr. Leah Herner-Patnode (Department of Educational Studies)
Dr. Tom Humanic (Department of Physics)
Dr. Julie Kennel (Department of Human Sciences)
Dr. Ellen Klinger (Department of Entomology)
Ms. Lisa Kowalsky (Graduate School)
Dr. Jim Landers (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
Ms. Jeanne Osborne (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonello (College of Engineering)
Mr. Peter Spreitzer (University Exploration)
Ms. Lindsey Thaler (Department of Physics)
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)
Mr. Terondrick Waller (Office of Undergraduate Admissions)

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

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR FÁBIO LEITE

The University Senate approved the creation of a subcommittee to discuss technology needs related to course and program approval. As the topic may touch on curriculum approval process, Leite attended the subcommittee's first meeting and was able to field questions.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Smith apologized for missing the Council meeting on December 6, 2023. He was in Indianapolis for a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) peer review.

Karla Zadnik started as the Interim Executive Vice President and Provost on January 1, 2024. Zadnik was previously the Dean of the College of Optometry and will continue to serve as the Interim Dean of the College of Public Health. A national search will be conducted to appoint a new Executive Vice President and Provost.

The Department of Biomedical Informatics' proposal to increase its clinical faculty cap will be discussed at the Faculty Council meeting on January 11, 2024.

Changes continue at the Committee of Academic Misconduct (COAM) Office. The number of COAM staff has increased from three to five. The office will move to using OnBase for its records and communications and it will soon relocate to the Student Academic Services Building.

Ohio State is working with Columbus State Community College on developing a new Information Technology (IT) pathway.

OSU Lima and Bluffton University will now offer a dual degree option. Students will start at Bluffton University and finish at Ohio State, receiving degrees from both institutions. This is the first such dual degree offering in Ohio State's history.

The College of Social Work is developing an Articulation Agreement with Rhodes State College.

This Council needs to continue its discussion on whether Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory courses should be allowed to count towards a certificate.

Smith is convening a group to look at concurrence statements in the OAA Handbook. Smith would like the group to determine if the statements are still needed and/or if they need updated. The group is also looking into the real distinction between a BA and BS as there are no written guidelines.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- **Correction to the Forensic Anthropology Advising Sheet – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Anthropology corrected its Forensic Anthropology Advising Sheet. There was a discrepancy between the embedded literacies listed in the proposal and those listed on the advising sheets. The course requirements are now listed on the latter.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Department of English's embedded literacies requirement for the English major – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of English updated the embedded literacies requirement for select specializations in the English major. The following specializations were updated: Literature, Film and Folklore, Popular Culture, and Creative Writing.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Revision to the EdS (Educational Specialist) in Teaching and Learning – College of Education and Human Ecology**

The Department of Educational Studies revised the Education Specialist (EdS) in Teaching and Learning. The program changed its admission process to the EdS to accept only doctoral program transfers. The program will no longer accept outside transfer applications.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Change to the BS in Computer Science and Engineering – College of Engineering**

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering proposes to change the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering. Changes include the removal of a capstone option and an update to the Ethics requirement.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Decision to allow 100% overlap of select certificate offerings and programs in the College of Nursing – College of Nursing**

The College of Nursing decided to allow 100% overlap of select certificate offerings with select graduate programs. The Healthcare Leadership and Innovation Certificate can overlap with the Master of Healthcare Innovation and the Clinical Research Management Certificate can overlap with the Master of Clinical Research.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE A – PROFESSORS SUE SUTHERLAND, CAROLS CASTRO, AND WENDY HESFORD; MS. EMILY JOHNSON AND MS. ASHLEY SWISSHELM

- **Proposal to revise the Physics BS --- College of Arts and Sciences**

Guests: Tom Humanic, Professor, Department of Physics; Lindsey Thaler, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Physics

The Department of Physics proposes to revise the Physics major leading to the Bachelor of Science degree.

The proposal will remove the current foci of the major: Advanced Physics, Life Sciences, Physic Education, and Applied Physics. The current foci do not appear on student transcripts and exist only to help students choose their electives appropriate for their post-graduation plans.

The current structure leads some students to believe that the program lacks flexibility, which can result in poor decision-making as it pertains to things like course registration. There is also confusion about degree audit reports and the name of the major.

The core curriculum will remain the same. The current Focus Requirements will be replaced with Career Electives. Students will be required to take at least 12 credit hours of Career Electives that are appropriate for their goals, interests, and career plans. There is no change to overall credit hours, or to the assessment plan.

The revision will go into effect in Autumn 2024. There will be no impact on current students.

The revision will better align the Physics major with peer programs.

Council members asked why the Department decided to get rid of the focuses instead of redesigning them. Humanic responded that their decision was based on student feedback. Students are/were hesitant to veer off the curriculum plan.

Council members asked if the Department expects an impact on enrollment. Humanic responded that the Department does not expect a major impact on enrollment, but numbers may increase as the major will appear less rigid.

The Council asked how the Department will ensure that students take appropriate courses for post-graduation plans. Thaler responded that Department would do this through advising and the survey course. Physics graduate programs do require certain courses for admissions. The Department has always clearly communicated these expectations to students interested in graduate school.

Humanic informed the Council that their advising staff are supportive of these changes as they will make things more flexible for students.

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

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE B – PROFESSORS NICOLE KWIEK, SAMANTHAN HERRMANN, AND BERRY LYONS; MS. MARGO COATES; MS. CARRIE ANNE THOMAS

- **Proposal to revise the K-12 Special Education Mild to Moderate Licensure Only program – College of Education and Human Ecology**

Guest: Leah Herner-Patnode, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies

The Department of Educational Studies proposes to revise the Special Education Mild to Moderate Licensure Only program. The Licensure program is offered at the Columbus and Lima campuses.

The proposed change is to designate the K-12 Special Education Mild to Moderate Licensure program as distance-delivered. This change would only apply to the program offered on the Lima campus.

Online delivery approval will allow OSU Lima to market the program to the entire State of Ohio. With online delivery, more students (practicing teachers) may be able to participate. All courses are already approved to be offered online.

Since this program is a 5b certificate, an MOU with OSU Online is not required. Griffiths confirmed this statement, though noted that this may change in the future. He added that State Authorization will only allow the program to market to students in Ohio.

Bowling Green State University offers similar content, but not in an online format.

Council members asked about the ideal class size. Herner-Patnode responded that the ideal cohort would be 15 students. Cohorts will begin in the summer.

This change will go into effect in Summer 2024.

Griffiths commented that OSU Online needs to figure out how it can support regional campuses with online programming. OSU Online's budget is only based on Columbus programs.

Griffiths added that the College of Education and Human Ecology should monitor enrollments to make sure that non-Ohio residents do not enroll.

Herner-Patnode informed the Council that the program never anticipated online offerings prior to the Covid pandemic.

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

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS FÁBIO LEITE AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Proposal to establish a 3a Certificate in Nutrition and Health Promotion – Interdisciplinary Programs**

Guest: Julie Kennel, Associate Professor-Clinical, Department of Human Sciences

The OSU Human Nutrition Program proposes to establish a 3a Certificate in Nutrition and Health Promotion. This proposal has been reviewed by the GS / CAA Combined Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council.

The graduate certificate is designed to provide current working professionals who have earned the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist credential, or any OSU graduate students enrolled in the applicable Nutrition and Dietetics the opportunity to provide focused training in nutrition to prevent chronic disease and maintain life-long wellness. The certificate will provide advanced training in nutrition and health promotion, allowing nutrition and dietetics graduate students opportunity to specialize in an area with high potential for employment.

Participants must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours from a minimum of 4 courses (2 core courses and 2 elective course). Students can complete the program online, in-person, or in a hybrid format.

The Program anticipates high demand for the certificate. A survey of incoming Master of Dietetics and Nutrition (MDN) students indicated that 50% of students were extremely interested in such a certificate. The Program plans for an initial enrollment of 10-15 students, with increasing enrollments after the first two years.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

- **Proposal to revise the Graduate Minor and Certificate in Federal Policy and Management – John Glenn College of Public Affairs**

Guests: Chris Adams, Director of Student Services and Programs, John Glenn College of Public Affairs; Jim Landers, Associate Professor-Clinical, John Glenn College of Public Affairs

The John Glenn College (JGC) of Public Affairs proposes to revise the Graduate Minor and Graduate Certificate in Public Administration and Federal Policy. This proposal has been reviewed by the GS / CAA Combined Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council.

The graduate minor and certificate features specialized coursework in the dynamics of the federal policy environment and innerworkings of Washington DC. The minor is targeted at current Ohio State students who either intend to work in Washington after graduate or whose work intersect with Washington-based organizations. The certificate is currently targeted primarily at DC0area professionals who need this policy-oriented training to advance in their careers.

The goal of the proposed revisions is to better serve students and better position the coursework as a free-standing certificate for career professionals. The proposed modifications will make the program more attractive to students by removing less-useful coursework and reducing the workload on students who are interning and taking classes.

Changes include the following: reducing the number of credit hours from 13 to 12; substituting a skills course with a more relevant topic than the current course; adding an additional option to the elective coursework; and moving one of the required courses online.

Greenbaum confirmed that students outside JGC can take the graduate minor. Current JGC students are not eligible for the minor but can take the certificate. The Council noted that a graduate certificate can be more flexible for students since it can be completed after graduation.

Griffiths informed the Council that OSU Online will work with the College on State Authorization if this proposal is approved.

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

- **Proposal to revise the PhD and Graduate Minor in Entomology – College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

Guests: Ellen Klinger, Assistant Professor-Clinical, Department of Entomology; Jeanne Osborne, Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

The Department of Entomology proposes to revise the PhD and Graduate Minor in Entomology. This proposal has been reviewed by the GS / CAA Combined Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council.

The Department proposes the removal of a course that is no longer offered in the Department and the addition of elective options to these graduate programs. The update will improve the number of offerings available to students and reflect the current curriculum.

There are no negative impacts to current students.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

ADDITIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Smith would like the Council to look at the enrollment of current certificates.

There needs to be a better understanding/definition of certificates vs. minors.

Jason Lemon, Vice Provost and Dean for Online Education, will attend an upcoming Council meeting to discuss next steps with online education.

The University's next decennial accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission will occur in 2026-27. A Quality Initiative project will be attached to the accreditation review. Ohio State's last Quality Initiative project focused on academic advising. Smith reported that the Office of Academic Affairs is considering focusing the upcoming project on transfer issues.

The Meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed