

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Ohio Union
Student-Alumni Council Room

February 7, 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)
- ✓ Mr. Brett Carroll (IPC, Pharmacy)

Administrator:

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

Guests:

- Dr. Wendy Bowles (College of Nursing)
- Ms. Michele Brown (Office of Academic Affairs)
- Ms. Lisa Duffy (Office of the University Registrar)
- Dr. Rob Greenbaum (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)

Dr. Rob Griffiths (Ohio State Online)
Dr. Thomas Humanic (Department of Physics)
Ms. Lisa Kowalsky (Graduate School)
Dr. Becky Lorenz (College of Nursing)
Mr. Bob Mick (College of Engineering)
Dr. Maria Miriti (Graduate School)
Dr. Emma Read (College of Veterinary Medicine)
Dr. Tasha Snyder (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Ms. Lindsey Thaler (Department of Physics)
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Cliff Whitfield (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)

The meeting came to order at 3:05 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR FÁBIO LEITE

Leite presented a mid-year report on the Council's progress at the Faculty Council meeting on February 1, 2024. Some expressed concern that the program approval process is not streamlined enough. Leite informed Faculty Council that this Council reviews and approves most proposals within 1-2 months of receipt. In addition, the introduction of informational items for minor changes has expedited the approval process.

There are still questions on when a proposal needs an MOU with Ohio State Online. Leite is discussing this topic with several people.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

University Senate leaders are meeting with Interim Provost Zadnik to discuss technology needs related to course and program approval.

This Council does make efforts to streamline its processes. Several years ago, the Council introduced Subcommittee D, composed of the Chair and Vice Chair, to review simple proposals. The Council then created the Graduate School / CAA Combined Curriculum Committee to shorten the review time for graduate proposals. Recently, the Vice Chair started to present informational items to expedite the approval of minor changes. Smith noted that it is a myth that proposals are delayed by this Council. Often, proposals are stopped at the unit and/or college.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- **Revision to the Graduate Certificate for IT Business Strategy Program – Fisher College of Business**

The Fisher College of Business updated the Graduate Certificate for IT Business Strategy. The certificate is replacing two 1.5-credit hour courses with a single 3-credit hour course.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Change to the Latinx Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization – Center for Ethnic Studies**

The Center for Ethnic Studies changed the Latinx Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS). Spanish 5620 will be added to the GIS' elective list.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Changes to the Consumer and Family Financial Services Major – College of Education and Human Ecology**

The Department of Human Sciences changed the Consumer and Family Financial Services Major. CSCFFD 3910 will be added to the list of Major A elective options.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the following majors: Human Nutrition, Human Development and Family Science, and Integrated Social Studies Education – College of Education and Human Ecology**

The College of Education and Human Ecology has decided to allow SOCIOL 1102 as a course requirement option for the following majors: Human Nutrition, Human Development and Family Science, and Integrated Social Studies Education.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Sport Industry Major – College of Education and Human Ecology**

The Department of Human Sciences changed the Sports Industry Major leading to the Bachelor of Science in Education. KNSISM 2250 will be added to the list of Major A elective options.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Update to the Agribusiness, Farm Management, and Production Agriculture Minors – College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

The Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics updated the Agribusiness, Farm Management, and Production Agriculture Minors. Several courses were updated from 2- to 3-credit hours. To prevent potential transfer issues, these courses received new course numbers.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

- **Revision to the Medical Laboratory Science Minor – College of Medicine**

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) revised the Medical Laboratory Science minor. The program is adding the online course numbers to its advising sheet.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

Smith noted that SHRS is moving towards more online programming.

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

- **Proposal to establish a Computational Physics Certificate – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: Thomas Humanic, Professor, Department of Physics; Lindsey Thaler, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Physics

The Department of Physics proposes to establish a Computational Physics Certificate (type 1b).

Computational physics prepares students to build computational models, design algorithms for numerical solutions, analyze the calculated data and perform computer experiment, by using high-performance computers. A certificate in computational physics proves that students are skilled in modeling physical systems and delivering solutions through computer programming.

Participants must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours (two required courses and two electives). All courses are at the 5000-level and are offered in-person.

The Department anticipates an initial enrollment of 20-40 students.

The Certificate can be completed in four semesters.

The Department would like the Certificate to go into effect in Autumn 2024.

Concurrences were received.

The Council asked what most Physics students do after graduation. Humanic responded that most go into business or government work, typically in a computer-related position. This Certificate will be Ohio State's first well-defined program in computational physics, which should be attractive to employers.

Does the Certificate's title properly highlight its content? Humanic replied in the affirmative. Computational physics is a recognized term in the workforce, particularly in the government sphere. Alumni have reported that the term 'computational physics' stands out to employers. Humanic added the Certificate participants will learn how to explain computational physics to lay people.

Thaler informed the Council that most participants will begin the Certificate as juniors.

The Council suggested that the Department add 'or permission of instructor' to course prerequisites so that the Certificate can be flexible.

The Council noted an error in the advising sheet (Appendix B).

The Council asked for a friendly amendment to update the Certificate's advising sheet and course prerequisites.

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

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

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

Guests: Bob Mick, Director of Professional and Distance Education Programs, College of Engineering; Cliff Whitfield, Associate Professor of Practice, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

The College of Engineering proposes to establish a Professional Master of Applied Aeronautics. This proposal has been reviewed and approved by the Graduate School / CAA Combined Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council.

The Professional Master of Applied Aeronautics (MAA) degree will offer working professionals and graduate students the opportunity to acquire the knowledge that supports advanced concepts in aeronautics across the entire Mach number range. The advanced aeronautics courses will provide students with the ability to immediately apply the knowledge to professional practice. Emphasis will be on practice—not research.

The MAA degree consists of 30 credit hours (12 credit hours of required core courses, 15 credit hours of technical electives, and 3 credit hours of mathematics electives). The fully online program is designed to be taken in 3 semesters, though it can be completed at a slower pace if a participant is working.

The Department expects an initial enrollment of 10-20 students with eventual enrollment of 40-50 students.

This will be the first online MAA program in Ohio.

An assessment plan was provided.

The proposal received support from leadership within the College of Engineering.

Mick and Whitfield informed the Council that the program will begin in January 2025.

The Council asked if students can earn a transcriptable specialization(s). Whitfield replied that this is not offered at the moment, but it is a long-term goal.

An MOU with Ohio State Online (OSO) is forthcoming. Griffiths informed the Council that the MOU process started before the creation of OSO, which has caused some delays. The hope is that the MOU will be completed before the University Senate meeting in March 2024.

Whitfield told the Council that the online format will support individuals in the workforce. If desired, students can take courses in-person.

The Program expects participants from Wright Patterson Airforce Base and General Electric.

Leite moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved with two abstentions.

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

- **Proposal to add an optional admission criteria for LPN to BSN students entering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program – College of Nursing**

Guests: Wendy Bowles, Assistant Dean, College of Nursing; Becky Lorenz, Senior Associate Dean, College of Nursing

The College of Nursing proposes adding an optional admission criteria for LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) to BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) students entering the BSN program.

The proposed revisions are to the admission criteria—not to the program itself. Proposed changes include the following:

1. Graduate from an approved LPN program with a minimum GPA of 2.5
2. Removing biology as a prerequisite
3. Applicants will be required to complete the prerequisite courses with a grade of C or higher

These changes will help the College of Nursing to reach the call to have more BSN nurses in hospitals.

The first cohort of 8 students will start in Summer 2024.

Lorenz informed the Council that there is a phenomenal demand for nurses in the State of Ohio.

King noted that this proposal did not receive a unanimous vote in the College of Nursing. The removal of the biology prerequisite is controversial. Smith added that this Council defers to the College on its voting process. This proposal was approved by the College of Nursing with 82% of faculty voting in favor of it.

Leite moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved with two abstentions.

Smith remarked that the College of Nursing is responding to workforce development demands, sometimes in nontraditional ways.

ANNUAL COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS PRESENTATION – MS. MICHELE BROWN

Brown presented her annual College Credit Plus presentation to the Council. Ohio's College Credit Plus (CCP) program allows students to earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from community colleges or universities, while in high school. The purpose of this program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to college-ready students. The program started in 2015 and has grown in popularity state-wide from an initial 7,000 participants to the current 80,000 participants.

CCP students at Ohio State are referred to as Academy students. Academy students can take classes in person or online. Classes are available at Columbus and the four regional campuses. Mathematics, English, and Biostatistics are popular classes among Academy students. The Academy admissions process is mirrored to Ohio State's admissions process (competitive admissions). Most Academy students come from four school districts: Dublin City School District, Olentangy Local School District, Columbus City Schools, and St. Charles Preparatory School.

Ohio State is a small player in Ohio. A third of CCP students are enrolled at community colleges. Columbus State College has over 6,000 CCP students.

Brown provided data on CCP enrollment at Ohio State, enrollment trends, average GPAs of Academy students, New First Year Students enrolling with credit, and retention/graduation rates of Academy students.

Leite invited the Council to discuss this presentation. Discussion included the following:

- The majority of CCP students are white females from suburban areas. How do we reach other students?
- Ohio State CCP students have better graduation and retention rates than the general student population.

- Advising is an issue at community colleges. Advising often falls to high school counselors who can direct students to take the “wrong” class to fulfill general education requirements.
- CCP students can increase the workload for faculty as they tend to need more advising/guidance.
- CCP has had some negative financial impacts on school districts and higher education institutions. School districts must pay for CCP courses. Higher education institutions receive a lower subsidy for CCP students.
- Ohio State does not do heavy recruiting for CCP as CCP enrollments is largely controlled by school districts.
- In theory, faculty should not change their teaching methods for CCP students. CCP parents are made aware of FERPA.
- Is there a way to track CCP student success once they are enrolled at Ohio State full-time?
- To date, Ohio State’s focus has been on a small, in-person CCP population.
- Anecdotally, students who do CCP at Ohio State want to continue their education at Ohio State.
- 97% of Academy students were admitted to Ohio State and 50% paid their acceptance fee.

Leite thanked Brown for the discussion.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed