

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

ZOOM

March 24, 2021

3-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Rebecca Andridge (College of Public Health)
- ✓ Dr. Anika Anthony (Department of Educational Studies, Graduate School)
- ✓ Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Patricia Enciso (Department of Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Dr. Kevin Evans (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences), Chair
- ✓ Dr. Sara Fowler (College of Dentistry)
- ✓ Dr. Jill Galvan (Department of English)
- ✓ Dr. Pasha Lyvers Peffer (Department of Animal Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Maria Pruchnicki (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Paul Rose (Moritz College of Law)
- ✓ Dr. Karl Whittington (Department of History of Art)

Staff:

- ✓ Mr. Peter Spreitzer (University Exploration)

Students:

- Mr. Ross Bales (IPC, Medicine)
- ✓ Mr. Brandon Bishop (USG, Political Science)
- Ms. Aviva Neff (CGS, Theatre)
- ✓ Dr. Dustin Servello (CGS, Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Sridhar Uppalapati (USG, Engineering Physics)
- Mr. William Vu (IPC, Dentistry)

Administrator:

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

Guests:

- Ms. Adrienne Bricker (Office of the University Registrar)
- Ms. Danielle Brown (College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Ms. Margo Coates (College of Dentistry)
- Ms. Cindy Davis (Office of the University Registrar)
- Ms. Lisa Delaney (Office of the University Registrar)

Mr. Brandon Genetin (Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics)
Dr. Robert Griffiths (Office of Distance Education and eLearning)
Dr. Darryl Hamamoto (College of Dentistry)
Ms. Jill Hampshire (Office of Enrollment Services)
Dr. David Horn (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Arpana Inman (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Dr. Alan Kalish (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Vladimir Kogan (Department of Political Science)
Dr. Anne Krabacher (University Honors and Scholars Center)
Dr. Raghu Machiraju (Translational Data Analytics Institute)
Dr. Andrew Martin (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Andrea Prud'homme (Fisher College of Business)
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonello (College of Engineering)
Mr. Joshua Roush (Translational Data Analytics Institute)
Dr. George Rush (Department of Art)
Dr. Cathie Smith (Translational Data Analytics Institute)
Ms. Melissa Solinger (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Dr. Brad Steinmetz (Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts)
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Cliff Whitfield (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)

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

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR— PROFESSOR KEVIN EVANS

On March 18, 2021, President Johnson met with members of faculty governance to discuss teaching and learnings. Evans reported that the conversation was a success and thanked everyone for their contributions for the discussion.

Evans asked Council members to remind colleagues about the University's upcoming instructional breaks on March 31 and April 1, 2021. It is not appropriate to give assignments or exams over the break.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR— PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

There is a University Senate meeting on March 25, 2021. The Council has two proposals on the Senate's agenda: proposal to establish a Master of Science in Immunology and Microbial Pathogenesis and proposal to change the name of the Center of Slavic and East European Studies. After normal Senate business concludes, Provost McPherson will give his final State of Academic Affairs Address.

As discussed at previous Council meetings, we will review several centers this academic year—likely over the summer.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) gave the University a positive response to its four-year review. All criteria were met. HLC did encourage continued assessment of all programs, particularly graduate programs and co-curricular activity. The next decennial review is in 2026-27.

Smith is leading a workgroup that is focusing on entrepreneurship education. President Johnson has identified this topic as one of her initiatives.

The Council does meet a few times over the summer. Reed will be in touch soon to gather availability.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- **Revision to the Arts Entrepreneurship Minor – College of Arts and Sciences**

The Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy made small changes to the Arts Entrepreneurship minor due to new faculty expertise in arts entrepreneurship and student interest in a more focused approach to the minor.

Business course selections will remain the same. Students will now take ARTEDU 3690 and then will select ARTEDU 3680 or ARTEDU 3681 depending on their preferences for non-profit or for-profit sectors.

There is no change to the overall credit hours required for the minor.

The Council did not express any concerns.

- **Name change to the education abroad unit – Office of International Affairs**

The Office of International Affairs will change the name of its education abroad unit to global education. The change is in response to industry trends and to more accurately reflect the expanded scope of intercultural opportunities offered to students.

The change will go into effect in Autumn 2021.

The Council did not express any concerns.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE B – PROFESSORS ERIC BIELEFELD, PASHA LYVERS PEFFER, MARIA PRUCHNICKI; MR. ROSS BALES AND MR. BRANDON BISHOP

- **Proposal to revise the college's Honors program requirements – College of Education and Human Ecology**

Guests: Arpana Inman, Associate Dean, College of Education and Human Ecology; Anne Krabacher, Director, University Honors and Scholars Center; Melissa Solinger, Senior Academic Advisor, College of Education and Human Ecology

The College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE) proposes to revise its Honors program requirements.

After creating a new Scholarships and Honors Manager position, EHE conducted a review of its Honors Program and discovered that very few students participate in it. As of November 2020, only 26 students were in the program—despite EHE being the University’s fourth largest college with 3,940 undergraduates. The college identified four reasons for the number of small participants: the lack of visibility in the college, the absence of a robust administrative support system, restrictive requirements that prohibit qualified students from completing courses, and a thesis required.

Considering these concerns, EHE proposes to revise the college honors program to allow greater access for eligible students, improve the quality of the program, and meet the academic needs of more of its students. The four basic changes include a raised GPA minimum, later completion of prerequisite courses, several tailored courses for Honors students, and expanding options, which include rigorous capstone projects and an advanced curricular track. EHE will retain the thesis option for those students who wish to engage in a research project under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

In addition, the college will designate for administrative support for the Honors programs, including a committee composed of administrators, staff, and faculty.

The University Honors and Scholars Center supports this proposal.

Solinger emphasized that the goals of these changes are to meet the needs of students. During the revision process, the college looked at other Honors Programs for inspiration.

Inman informed the Council that these revisions will allow last-year students to participate in the program. Typically, EHE students spend their last year doing student teaching.

Andridge complimented the proposal for allowing students different ways to complete the program. All options feel equal in substance.

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

- **Proposal to transition the existing Master of Translational Data Analytics to online delivery– Interdisciplinary Programs**

Guests: Raghu Machiraju, Interim Faculty Director, Translational Data Analytics Institute; Joshua Roush, Internship and Student Programs Coordinator, Translational Data Analytics Institute; Cathie Smith, Managing Director, Translational Data Analytics Institute

The Translational Data Analytics Institute (TDAI) proposes to transition the existing Master of Translational Data Analytics (MTDA) degree program to an online delivery. The GS/CAA Combined Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council reviewed and approved this proposal.

Moving to an online format was a long-term goal of the MTDA program, but the COVID-19 crisis forced an immediate-need to move online and sped up the original transition plan.

The program has already launched its first two semesters in an online format for Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021 due to COVID-19. Currently, courses are structured to allow students to attend either synchronously or asynchronously. If approved, courses that have not yet launched will be designed for an online format.

C. Smith noted that the online option will be helpful for the program's target audience, which is working professionals. The program hopes that the online delivery will reach students out of Ohio.

The program has a completed MOU with the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (ODEE).

The Council commented that the Fisher College of Business (FCOB) offers a similar graduate program with the Specialized Master in Business Analytics (SMBA). How does TDAI differentiate its program? Machiraju responded that, while similar, the programs are different. The SMBA looks at how a business can use data analytics to make a decision. The MTDA teaches an individual how to create and visualize data. FCOB and TDAI are actively discussing marketing strategies to differentiate their programs.

Machiraju added that the Department of Design and the Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design (ACCAD) are a major part of the MTDA, which sets this program apart from its peers.

Griffiths clarified that FCOB did come to ODEE with a concern about possible overlap. ODEE is comfortable with the University offering both programs and they expect that students will understand the differences.

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

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE C – PROFESSORS PAUL ROSE, ANIKA ANTHONY, JILL GALVAN; MR. PETER SPREITZER; MR. DUSTIN SERVELLO AND MR. WILLIAM VU

- **Proposal to establish a new Undergraduate Minor in Entertainment Design and Technology – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: Brad Steinmetz, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts

The Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts proposes to establish a new Undergraduate Minor in Entertainment Design and Technology.

The Entertainment Design and Technology minor will support students who want to apply the skills of their discipline to careers in live events, theatre, and themed entertainment. The program will capitalize of the department's strengths, build bridges to students across campus, and help prepare graduates for one of the fastest-growing sectors in the industry.

The minor requires a minimum of 12 credit hours, with 9 hours from a selection of relevant electives and 3 hours from courses focusing on practical experience on productions or in the field.

Rose commented that this is an interesting, interdisciplinary minor.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

- **Proposal to establish a new Undergraduate Minor in Art: Engineering Structure – College of Arts and Sciences**

Guest: George Rush, Associate Professor, Department of Art

The Department of Art proposes to establish a new Undergraduate Minor in Art: Engineering Structure.

The Art: Engineering structure minor will provide students with the opportunity to integrate creative and artistic studio practice with their major academic research pursuits. The coursework in the minor is focused on material and structural explorations in metal, glass, ceramic, and wood. These four materials have differing structural strengths and weaknesses, and the coursework offered will allow students a direct haptic understanding of how these materials function while developing creative thinking skills.

The minor requires a minimum of 12 credit hours, which 9 hours of elective courses and one required course (3 hours).

Rush informed the Council that the minor started with conversations between the Department of Art and College of Engineering. The minor is designed for engineering students, but non-engineering students may be interested. This will be a good opportunity for the department to reach students in different disciplines.

Spreitzer asked Rush about the department's use of 'engineering'. Rush replied that the minor received support from the College of Engineering (COE). David Tomasko, Associate Dean, was particularly enthusiastic about the minor. COE plans to market the minor to its students. To Rush's knowledge, this is the first time a non-engineering program has used the term, but the minor is using 'engineering' as a verb rather than a noun.

Evans complimented the minor and proposers on their collaborate spirit.

Spreitzer expressed surprise that there are no engineering courses in a minor with this title. Evans replied that the endorsement from the College of Engineering may alleviate some of that concern.

Evans moved approval of the recommendation; it was approved with one nay.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS KEVIN EVANS AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Proposal to change the Aerospace Engineering program – College of Engineering**

Guests: Cliff Whitfield, Associate Professor—Clinical, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

The Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering proposes to change its Aerospace Engineering program.

The proposed changes are designed to better prepare aerospace engineering students planning to pursue a career in the space-industry and graduate school by providing a balance with all important aerospace engineering fundamentals, as well as changes made to provide a balance to the credit hours earned within capstone experiences. The changes are based off feedback from faculty, students, and alumni.

Changes include the following: changing the semester of offering for several courses, removing/adding courses, and changing a course title. The proposed changes will not impact the total number of credit hours in the program (128).

The department submitted transition plans for each level of student.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

- **Proposal to revise the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene and the Bachelor of Science Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program – College of Dentistry**

Guests: Margo Coates, Academic Program Services Senior Analyst, College of Dentistry; Darryl Hamamoto, Associate Dean, College of Dentistry

The College of Dentistry proposes to revise the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene and the Bachelor of Science Baccalaureate Degree Completion program.

The curriculum in the dental hygiene program has been updated over time as content in the field has changed. This proposal will formally incorporate these minor changes into the curriculum and curriculum sheets. The changes will solve current scheduling issues for students.

Changes include updating the prerequisite courses required for progression through the major and change two courses from variable to fixed credit hours.

Griffiths confirmed that the Office of Distance Education and eLearning, which is involved with the Baccalaureate Degree Program, is aware of and supports these changes. An MOU is not necessary.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

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

STUDENT EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTION (SEI) SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – DR. ALAN KALISH

The Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI) Subcommittee reports to this Council and the Subcommittee presents an annual report to it. Kalish led the presentation.

The presentation included information on the SEI Subcommittee membership, SEI Subcommittee responsibilities, report on usage and response rates, and the Subcommittee's bias reduction study.

Evans opened the topic for discussion. Discussion topics included the following: how courses with controversial topics are evaluated; the possibility of revising the SEI calculations; how to get units to properly evaluate data; if incentivizing completion is a good practice; and student understanding of how SEIs are used.

Related to SEIs, Vice Provost Helen Malone charged a committee to review the University's evaluation of teaching policies and procedures. The committee consists of faculty, staff, and students. Colette Dollarhide, College of Education and Human Ecology, is chairing the committee.

The committee is reviewing APT documents, SEIs, peer reviews, etc. They are also reviewing best practices locally and nationally. At the conclusion of its review, the committee will recommend changes to instruments, procedures, and policy guidelines. A report will be submitted to the Provost and any actionable items will be taken to the University Senate for approval.

Due to a conflict, Dollarhide was unable to attend today's Council meeting. Dollarhide will be invited to one of the Council's summer meetings to discuss the committee's work.

Evans thanked Kalish and his fellow presenters for their time.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith

Katie Reed