

Minutes
Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
April 6, 2016

Members in Attendance: R. Cole, C. Boyd, J. Burwinkel, C. Duncan, L. Dorsey, G. Barker, S. Naeger, M. Higgins, K. Thatcher, L. Fenneberg, D. Barbeau, E. Blessing, J. Haugen, L. Boyer, M. Carlson, L. Sweetman, J. Gilman

Guest in Attendance: Katherine Weathers

Call to Order: Dr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the March 2, 2016 meeting: Motion made by R. Cole to approve the March 2, 2016 meeting minutes and seconded by J. Burwinkel - unanimous approval.

Updates:

Academic Programs

- Project management major
 - SPS colleagues are revising the proposal that was put forth earlier this spring.
- Performing Arts minor - Madrid: Unanimously endorsed by CADD in March. It will now go the Provost.
- Pre-Health and Pre-Law Program - Katherine Weathers

Points of Interest:

- Pre-health and pre-law were reorganized Fall 2015 - combining the two programs.
- In the Fall 2015, the Program formed a Pre-Law Review Task Force and initiated a review of the legal studies secondary major and minor and the pre-law scholars program to determine how the major, minor and scholars program are preparing our students for their post-baccalaureate study.
- Findings included (full report provided for committee members):
 - A decline in admission in the secondary major of legal studies. Generally 5-10 students enroll in the major. The pre-law scholars program has increased over the years.
 - The ABA, LSAT scores, and admissions data indicated that a legal studies major is not correlated with law school admission. In fact, the ABA doesn't support any one particular area of study as preparation for law school.
 - Finally, the secondary major is not a significantly distinct major. It is dependent on several other academic majors coursework to complete the curricular requirements.
- The task force recommendation is to teach out the legal studies major and minor and maintain the pre-law scholars. The teach out plan allows students who are currently in that degree program to graduate with that secondary major or minor and all incoming freshmen who may or have selected that degree to also complete all the degree requirements by 2019. It was determined that mock trial may be best as a student organization which reflects other benchmark universities. The pre-law scholars

program would be enhanced to provide students a greater academic experience around legal studies.

- Internships for legal studies students during the reorganization have been provided through the political science department. It was understood that this was an interim situation, however, it is noted in the teach out plan that it will continue long-term. Reminder to discuss and confirm with the chair of the Political Science Department. Note: in the Pre-Law Advisory Council meeting CCJ and International Studies also indicated interest and availability for providing internships for legal studies during the teach out and pre-law scholars. I saw that there was a political science professor on the task team but I am curious, the chair, I don't know if they rotate that around, to having different people supervise that or if it the same person, what are they saying about it.
- How do SLU pre-law scholars perform on the LSAT? They perform above the average. Do most go onto law school? Not sure of that data, it would need additional research.

Motion to accept teach out plan for the Legal Studies secondary major and minor made by C. Duncan and seconded by J. Burwinkle.

New Academic Program Proposals.

- a. New Majors
 - i. Bioethics & Health Studies -proposal is in progress.
- b. Minors
 - i. Business Analytics Minor -proposal is in progress.
- c. New Certificates - none
- d. Informational Updates - Criminology and Criminal Justice (major & minor)- Sandra Naeger

Points of Interest:

- Changes were submitted to the substantive change task force for UAAC and it was determined that the CCJ updates are informational only.
- CCJ is tightening up the curriculum for the major and the minor. Consolidating course options to a course addressing multicultural and social justice within the CCJ context.
- The minor changed from 21 hours to 18 hours.
- The major now requires seven core classes instead of six and collapsed four interrelated courses being offered into two allowing for greater intentionality in the courses offered.
- When you are refining and combining courses, is there concern about limiting when a student will be able to take a class and how it would fit into their progression? Yes, fall and spring sequencing has been considered with input from the academic advisors with regard to curricular flexibility.
- How many criminal justice major are there per year? We would need to pull that data to bring to next UAAC meeting.
- Inquiry was made to engage in conversation with regard to efficiency of resources - seems as though some of the courses offered are similar to courses offered elsewhere on campus. UAAC chair encouraged academic leadership, chair and dean, discussion with regard to this topic within and across academic units.

- Can students other than criminology and criminal justice majors take the courses? This question facilitated the curricular review - academic unit continues to review course capacity.
- What is the difference between the internship and the externship? The externship is a relationship between the program and the community and is facilitated through a faculty sponsor. The externship is thought of as a one-week or a two-week experiential experience without academic credit.
- The statement at the bottom about students must earn a C, what does that mean exactly? A grade below a C is failing in many of the required major/minor courses.

UAAC Roster - proposed edits:

- When the roster was developed the CAS faculty rep was listed as responsible for CAS and philosophy and letters (P&L). P&L is not a department or a college within a college or a school, therefore this is not an appropriate representation. In his position as Dean, Br. Rehg (P&L) receives UAAC minutes and receives updates/reports at CADD. Philosophy and Letters has been removed from the CAS faculty representation.
- In addition, the CAS Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education joined the committee last year per the recommendation of the previous Dean of CAS, Fr. Barber. Dean Duncan, CAS, has requested permanency in this position with voting privileges given the integral role this position holds to academic programming at the University. CAS Dean will hold a permanent ex-officio position as noted by double asterisks (**).
- The UAAC CAS representation is increased by one on our committee for a total of three representatives (a faculty rep, dean and associate dean).
- Recommendation to adequately represent University assessment on the roster via replacing Dr. Steve Sanchez with Kathleen Thatcher, University Assessment Coordinator.
- Lisa Israel's position is as chair of the Academic Advising Leadership Committee. There are changes that are occurring as far as some of our advising that has been more centralized. The Chair of Advising Leadership would be out of the associate provost of academic affairs office in the future. Therefore, this position may be deleted.

Motion made by M. Higgins to endorse the revised roster and seconded by R. Cole - unanimous endorsement.

Revision of Academic Policies:

Academic Amnesty

Points of Interest: (committee responses in bold italics)

- Need clarity around how we address this in a consistent way on campus - what happens when a student leaves SLU with a poor academic record and now they want to come back? General support around development of this type of policy, however current draft policy requires additional consideration.
- Upon re-entry students would be subject to the most recent requirements of the academic program vs catalog requirements from prior admission.
- Under the new policy would students:

- Be granted academic amnesty only once? **yes**
- Is it a semester application? If so, how many semesters. There are other models schools that use grades as the metric – the student could have all their F courses go away or all Ds and Fs. ***It was determined semesters, 1-2 – not clear at this time.***
- Does this need to be documented on the student’s reapplication? The student would note that they are applying for amnesty so that the school in the college would take that into consideration for readmission.
- When would the amnesty take effect? Some of the benchmark schools require students to complete twelve hours at a certain academic level (e.g. 2000 level). They enter as a probationary student. ***Upon readmission, students would be subject to the standard academic unit and University probationary and dismissal policies and procedures.***
- Students can’t have attended the institution during the last five years - some were two, some ten. ***Three, five seems too long.*** Is it only attendance at SLU or any institution during that time?
- How would transfer credits back to SLU be managed? ***SLU’s current policies and processes would apply.***
- Would AP, etc. be excluded from amnesty? ***Yes, these courses occurred prior to SLU.***

Credit by Certification

Points of Interest:

- Concluding remarks about spelling out the acronyms. Generally speaking they have been spelled out – in some areas the acronym has become the entity name.
- Have these certifications been vetted through reputable source? Yes, the host academic units have vetted the proposed certifications through the academic unit and ACE. As additional academic unit certification requests come forward they would be added to the list after vetting and approval at the unit level, ACE (or other reputable source), UAAC, CADD and Provost.
- There may be many options within a certification – e.g. for Microsoft there may be several certifications that have been approved. This list would be found on the website associated with this policy.
- Do other academic units have to accept it? Yes but, not necessarily as a major course, it may be an elective for another academic unit when a student transfers.
- Correct language in first sentence – should be *approved certifications...* comparable to language noted at the end of the policy.
- How would a faculty member add to this list, what is the process? They would work with their academic leadership to determine whether or not this would be an appropriate option. Based on the academic department/program recommendation it would then go forward to the dean’s office as a recommendation and to the Registrar’s Office.
- In order to have University consistency we may need a faculty/staff process with regard to how we carry this review and request out – need to articulate an explicit process.

Graduation Requirements

Points of Interest:

- Last meeting the committee agreed to the last thirty of thirty-six credit hours.
- The students will continue to be required to complete the approval for a course outside of SLU. Students must receive approval by their college or school.
- Update to the requirement number four which is to the right in the current policy, we had courses below the 100 level that needs to be below the 1000 level.

Motion made by C. Boyd to endorse the policy and seconded by M. Higgins - unanimous endorsement.

Old Business:

- The Syllabus Taskforce met and synthesized information with regard to the queries around standard syllabi templates and checklist. What resources might be available for SLU, new faculty, current faculty, etc.?
- Internships - continue to gather data. If you haven't provided your program processes steps if you have them, please send that my way.

Announcements:

- Dean Duncan to Lisa Dorsey - I haven't known you for very long but I wanted to say that your professionalism and the humor and the deference with which you have handled this committee and the work that you have done here, I have nothing but great admiration for and I think you are going to be a real loss.
- There is an upcoming event College of Arts and Sciences Career Weekend the week of April 18th. There is a series of different options for students to engage in the liberal arts and tributes to their career path.
- Beta Box event is not just Arts and Sciences - it is open to all students. All of the events are open to all students but are tailored towards students in the liberal arts. Beta Box is an inventive technology where students are posed with a problem, they are matched with an interdisciplinary team where they have to come up with a creative solution - they will present and be judged on the project.
- Senior legacy symposium is on April 20th from 3-5 pm. Seniors are selected from each academic discipline and participate in a poster presentation, a creative presentation or oral presentation about their research or experiential learning.
- The annual May Event will be on study day - ay 3rd. This faculty and staff development event that is co-sponsored by CTTL, Academic Affairs and Student Development to bring faculty and staff together in conversation about contributing in student learning. This year the focus is on the Jesuit Mission and how that work helps students to understand and observe aspects of their world. Dr. Tom Landy from the College of the Holy Cross will be the presenter.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00am.