

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL
Tuesday, 11 November 2014, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: K. Ackerson, A. Anderson, R. Aravamuthan, J. Atkin, Jane Baas (for C. Koretsky), K. Baldner, Michele Behr (for D. Sachs), M. Bracey, M. Kritzman, S. Mead, Kelley Oliver (for C. Tremblay), D. Reinhold, D. Walcott, G. Whitehurst

Absent without substitution: L. Coons, J. Cousins, K. Hillenbrand

Guests: Steve Bertman (Chemistry), Gary Bischof (Family and Consumer Sciences), Mark Hurwitz (Political Science and Special Assistant to the Provost), Denise Keele (Political Science), Ed Martini (Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences)

Also present: Sue Davenport (Faculty Senate Office)

Procedural Items

Council Chair M. Kritzman called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

Whitehurst moved acceptance of the agenda as amended, to include discussion of a proposal from Fine Arts, seconded by Atkin. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Atkin moved approval of the minutes of 14 October 2014 (correcting the spelling of Atkin's name!), seconded by Ackerson. Motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

Kritzman summarized the most recent Faculty Senate meeting, and had recent figures about enrollment.

Action Items/Curriculum Proposals

1. College of Arts and Sciences—Ed Martini

- a. [CAS 15-66] Establish a new interdisciplinary minor in Climate Change Studies – Denise Keele
E. Martini and D. Keele addressed the council regarding this proposal. An outgrowth of the interdisciplinary humanities climate change working group, the minor in Climate Change Studies would be an interdisciplinary

minor housed in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and coordinated by an advisory board consisting of representative faculty from the departments and programs with courses included in the program. The faculty committee that developed this program looked extensively at other similar offerings around the country and around the world and determined that CAS could offer a program that would build and expand on existing offerings and expertise and would be of interest to students in multiple fields. The proposed program would be interdisciplinary, providing students with the necessary science-based background and a broad understanding of the human relationship to climate change including the social and environmental causes, challenges, and opportunities for mitigation and adaption. Anderson moved approval of this proposal, seconded by Ackerson. Motion passed.

b. [CAS 15-68] Establish a new interdisciplinary minor in Legal Studies – Mark Hurwitz

Mark Hurwitz addressed the council. This proposal would establish an interdisciplinary minor in Legal Studies, to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) coordinated by an advisory board consisting of representative faculty from the primary departments and programs with courses included in the program, including the Departments of History, Political Science, and Sociology, and, as an ex-officio member, the associate dean for curriculum in Arts and Sciences. This minor, which includes courses within CAS and the Haworth College of Business (HCOB), would be advantageous for numerous students with varied interests, including those interested in attending law school, in a career in criminal justice, or in a career in business or government where a working knowledge of legal issues and the legal system would be useful. The Legal Studies minor will provide undergraduate students with an interdisciplinary education that will enhance their critical thinking skills along with a sound background in legal issues. Atkin moved approval of this proposal, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.

c. [CAS 15-70] Establish an accelerated degree program for CAS students in any major wishing to pursue a JD degree at the WMU Thomas M. Cooley School of Law – Mark Hurwitz

Mark Hurwitz addressed the council regarding this proposal. Given the new affiliation between WMU and Cooley Law School, this proposal would establish a process by which students interested in attending Cooley could do so under an accelerated program, receiving credit at both WMU and Cooley for up to 18 of the 24 credits successfully completed (with a grade of "C" or better) in traditional first-year law courses. As with other Accelerated Graduate Degree Programs (AGDP) at WMU, this program would allow students to begin accumulating credits toward completion of an advanced degree while still enrolled as undergraduates. However, since the program is affiliated with the Cooley Law School rather than an existing WMU or CAS unit, it is structured somewhat differently. This proposal would allow students accepted into the program to enroll in A-S 5100: Topics in Legal Studies, which will be scheduled in cooperation with

Cooley Law School and cross-listed with traditional first-year law courses. The 18 credits double counted at both institutions will also satisfy the requirements for the Legal Studies Minor housed in CAS. This accelerated program would be available to students in any CAS major. Aravamuthan moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by Atkin. Motion carried.

d. [CAS 15-71] Establish a new major – The Sustainable Craft Brewing Science program, a partnership between WMU and Kalamazoo Valley Community College for an interdisciplinary 4-year curriculum – Steve Bertman

Ed Martini and Steve Bertman addressed the council. The Sustainable Craft Brewing Science program would be an interdisciplinary 4-year curriculum in partnership between WMU and KVCC. This proposal comes out of more than a year of research by faculty from CAS and other colleges and is supported by an external advisory board with members from breweries in the state. This General Science track would be an interdisciplinary major housed in the College of Arts and Sciences, and would be overseen by a Coordinating Team consisting of faculty from the Biological Sciences department and the program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies. The goal of this program is to educate students who are intimately familiar with the technical features of brewing, have an appreciation for the rich landscape of an industry that has been part of human civilization for thousands of years, and can comprehend and address the environmental challenges faced by the industry in the 21st century. Required STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) courses for the General Science track will complement a slate of brewing-focused courses. Whitehurst moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by Ackerson. Motion carried.

2. **College of Fine Arts—Department of Theatre:** [T2. 14-15] Change title of the degree BFA in Theatre: Performance, to BFA in Theatre: Acting
The proposed change would clarify the course of study for prospective students by more accurately reflecting the curriculum, and by bringing the name in alignment with similar programs in other universities. Anderson moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by Atkin. Motion carried.

3. **Haworth College of Business – Department of Business Information Systems:** [HCoB 1314] Delete Business Communication Minor
The minor was suspended in 2009, and since then, there has only been one inquiry about it. Given this lack of interest and the shrinking Business Communication faculty, the department thinks it best to delete the minor. Aravamuthan moved, seconded by Anderson, approval of this proposal. Motion carried.

4. **College of Health and Human Services – School of Social Work:** [CHHS 84-14] Eliminate the Guided Interdisciplinary Health minor from the BSW program, but maintain the requirements for all of the courses contained therein
The Guided Interdisciplinary Health minor courses are fully included within the Bachelor of Social Work major program requirements. As such, the program is

not needed as a stand alone minor. All of the courses currently contained within the minor will still be required for the BSW program. Aravamuthan moved, seconded by Baldner, approval of this proposal. Motion carried.

5. **College of Education and Human Development – Department of Family and Consumer Sciences:**

Gary Bischof addressed the council. Proposals 507, 508, and 518, were grouped together, as they all had to do with deleting programs. Aravamuthan moved approval of these proposals, seconded by Ackerson. Motion carried. Proposals 516, 517, and 519 were grouped together, as these all involved name changes. Aravamuthan moved approval of these proposals, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

a. [CEHD 507] Delete Occupational Foods minor

The proposal is to delete the Occupational Foods minor, which has had no students in the last 5 years.

b. [CEHD 508] Delete Child Care education minor

The proposal is to delete the Child Care Education minor, as the State of Michigan no longer certifies teachers in Child Care.

c. [CEHD 516] Change major/concentration title Textile and Apparel Studies: Merchandising, to Fashion Merchandising and Design: Merchandising

Although there is considerable diversity among major titles of similar programs across the country, a recent review of program/major titles at 49 universities whose faculty are members of the International Textile and Apparel Association found that 'Fashion Merchandising and Design' is among the most frequently used major title.

d. [CEHD 517] Change major title of Textile and Apparel Studies: Design and Development: Fashion Design concentration to Fashion

Merchandising and Design: Design and Development concentration

Note that the current Textile and Apparel Studies: Design and Development also includes the Product Development concentration. Another proposal in this package requests deletion of the Textile and Apparel Studies: Design and Development: Product Development concentration. Approval of these proposals would result in the merger of the current 'Fashion Design' and 'Product Development' concentrations into one concentration: Fashion Merchandising and Design: Design and Development.

e. [CEHD 518] Delete the Textile and Apparel Studies Design and Development: Product Development concentration

Components of this option are being incorporated into the proposed Fashion Merchandising and Design: Design and Development concentration, presented elsewhere in the proposal package. The proposed Fashion Merchandising and Design: Design and Development concentration will offer the same courses as required in the proposed

deleted concentration, plus one additional new course, proposed elsewhere in this package.

f. [CEHD 519] Change title of Textile and Apparel Merchandising minor to Fashion Merchandising minor

The proposed name change aligns with proposed new major title submitted elsewhere in this proposal package. The proposed title is a more accurate description of the content of the minor, which includes courses designed to introduce students to skills and knowledge required for marketing of finished apparel/softline products. The name change is also likely to improve visibility of the minor, both for WMU and prospective students seeking a minor in this area.

6. **College of Fine Arts—School of Music:** [M1.14-15] Music proposes to limit to TWO the number of times a student can enroll in an undergraduate MUS course in an attempt to earn a passing grade. This affects students in several General Education courses. We discussed the proposal but tabled a vote until next month to give members the opportunity to review the proposal.

Information/Discussion/Action Items

1. Report on the National Survey of Student Engagement and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement – David Reinhold

David Reinhold addressed the council. These are institutional assessment instruments used by over 500 institutions. Reinhold distributed a handout summarizing some results of these surveys. There were lots of interesting results to discuss.

2. Resolution from the Western Student Association to create a consistent course schedule

Sarah Mead, WSA representative, spoke on behalf of the WSA's resolution that Western adopt a consistent course schedule so that students could plan their courses farther in advance. The council was sympathetic to the need for this kind of consistency in course offerings, but didn't know what, as a council, we could do. Kritzman suggested that council members recommend any changes we might have to the WSA resolution, and said that we would consider at our next meeting whether or not we wanted to formally endorse their proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Baldner