

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL
Tuesday, 12 November 2019, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: Deanna Bush, Carrie Cumming, Michael Duffy, Clifton Ealy, Bruce Ferrin, Kathryn Hillenbrand, Marilyn Kritzman, Kate LaLonde, Irma Lopez, David Reinhold (for Provost Jennifer Bott), Dianna Sachs, Xiaoyun Shao

Members absent without substitution: Jessica Birnbaum, Rebecca Natale (Western Student Association), Daniela Schroeter, Sarah Strathman (Western Student Association)

Academic Advising Liaison absent: Betsy Drummer

Advisory Member present: Tammy Morgan (for Edwin Martini)

Guests: Cynthia Klekar-Cunningham, Director, School of Communication; Susan Pozo, Director, Global and International Studies Program; Joan Herrington, Chair, Theatre; Magdalena Niewiadomska-Bugaj, Chair, and Joseph McKean, Department of Statistics; Deborah Droppers and James Lewis, Human Performance and Health Education; Mohamed Sultan, Chair, and Michelle Kominz, Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences; Marilyn Duke, Director, Academic Resource Center

Procedural / Informational Items

Chair Ferrin called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

A welcome was extended to those in attendance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Ferrin proposed revision to the order of agenda items, moving curriculum proposals to the end of the meeting. Hillenbrand moved to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Ealy. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Hillenbrand moved to approve the minutes of 8 October 2019 as written, seconded by Cumming. Motion carried.

Chair's Comments – Bruce Ferrin

Ferrin and Kritzman met with Graduate Studies Council Chair Timothy Michael and William Rantz, Faculty Senate Executive Board representative to GSC, to discuss review and potential revision (if needed) of the curriculum revision process. Meetings will continue and Ferrin will update the council regularly. Hillenbrand asked if and when college curriculum committees will have an opportunity to provide input into this discussion. Ferrin noted that these conversations are purely exploratory at this time, and any changes would need to be instigated by the Faculty Senate, at which time all faculty would have opportunity to participate in the process under Faculty Senate procedures.

Action Items

Other

1. MOA-19/07 Revision of the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies-Registration-Dropping Classes and Withdrawing from All Classes (revisit regarding adding classes in summer I and II)

The council discussed concerns about changing the add/drop deadline for summer classes. Ealy moved to revise MOA-19/07 to change the add/drop deadline to three business days, seconded by Kritzman. Motion carried with one abstention. Ealy moved to recommend that revised MOA-19/07 be submitted to the Faculty Senate Executive Board. Motion carried.

2. Intellectual Skills Program Advisory Committee 2019-20 charges – Marilyn Duke

Hillenbrand moved to approve Intellectual Skills Program Advisory Committee 2019-20 charges, seconded by Bush. Motion carried.

Curriculum Proposals

1. Communication – CAS 17-426 – Delete Telecommunications and Information Management Major

Changes in communication landscape have resulted in a decline in enrollment for this major in favor of other majors.

Hillenbrand moved to approve CAS 17-426 – Delete Telecommunications and Information Management Major, seconded by Kritzman. Motion carried with one abstention.

2. Global and International Studies – CAS 17-360-REVISED: Create Latinx and Latin American Studies Minor (revisit learning outcomes-postponed on 8 October)

The proposal has been revised to include updated learning outcomes. Ealy moved to approve CAS 17-360-REVISED: Create Latinx and Latin American Studies Minor, seconded by Hillenbrand. Motion carried with one abstention.

3. Global and International Studies – CAS 17-177: Delete Latin American Studies Minor

The new Latinx and Latin American Studies Minor will take the place of the Latin American Studies Minor.

Duffy moved to approve CAS 17-177: Delete Latin American Studies Minor, seconded by Bush. Motion carried with one abstention.

4. Theatre – T.1 19-20A: Change title of B.A. in Theatre Studies to B.A. in Arts Administration and revise curriculum from exclusively Theatre to choice of core courses from any discipline in the college

Ealy moved to approve T.1 19-20A: Change title of B.A. in Theatre Studies to B.A. in Arts Administration and revise curriculum from exclusively Theatre to choice of core courses from any discipline in the college, seconded by Hillenbrand.

Discussion was held.

The majority of students enrolled in the current Theatre Studies major choose a focus on Arts Administration. This change would reflect the needs of students and would respond to increasing market demand.

The letter of support from the School of Public Affairs and Administration has not been shared with the council.

Ferrin requested clarification of the wording of the fifth learning outcome.

The council will postpone a vote until after receipt of the letter of support from the School of Public Affairs and Administration and the revised learning outcomes.

5. Statistics – CAS 17-389 – Create an accelerated graduate degree program in Data Science

Ealy moved to approve CAS 17-389 – Create an accelerated graduate degree program in Data Science, seconded by Lopez. Discussion was held.

- It was noted that the current learning outcomes are not measurable. Reinhold offered to assist with revising learning outcomes.
- Cumming noted that catalog copy would also need to be updated.
- It was suggested that the proposal be revised to provide more detail about the program.
- Ferrin noted that the Haworth College of Business has a Business Analytics major that may have some related curriculum; Ferrin requested that a letter of support be obtained.
- Ealy noted that the letter of support from the Department of Computer Science is not attached.

The council will postpone a vote until after receipt of the revised proposal.

6. Human Performance and Health Education – CEHD 1022: Create an Event Management Major

Lopez moved to approve CEHD 1022: Create an Event Management Major, seconded by Bush. Discussion was held.

Cumming requested a revision to the catalog copy, to have the required courses and elective courses be listed together.

Ferrin inquired about potential duplication of content with some courses that are taught in the Haworth College of Business. Droppers responded that the event planning courses are qualitatively different from what is taught in HCOB, and that the courses were approved for this reason when they were originally developed for the existing minor. Ferrin recommended that the proposal be revised to explain how this program is different from the existing HCOB programs.

It was also noted that the letter attached for the School of Communication does not give approval for the program. Courses in other departments are listed in the proposal but letters of support are not provided.

It was noted that current learning outcomes are not measurable. Reinhold offered to assist with revising learning outcomes.

It was noted that one required course appears to be missing from the list of required courses.

The council will postpone a vote until after receipt of the revised proposal, including revised learning outcomes and letters of support from School of Communication, Graphic and Printing Sciences, School of Public Affairs and Administration, and Philosophy.

7. Geological and Environmental Sciences – CAS 17-449: Create Environmental Geology Major

Ealy moved to approve CAS 17-449: Create Environmental Geology Major, seconded by Hillenbrand. Discussion was held.

A letter of support from the University Libraries has been received but was not distributed to the council. The letter will be attached.

The proposal was missing catalog copy.

The council will postpone a vote until after receipt of the catalog copy and support letter.

Other

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Kritzman, seconded by Ealy. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianna E. Sachs, Secretary