



Academic Policy & Curriculum Committee

April 15, 2015, WCG 322, 12:30-2:00pm

Agenda

I. Consent Agenda – Minutes: 3/18/15

II. Program Reviews

a. New Programs

- B.S. - Biomedical Sciences, 1503 Bonnie Becker attending at 12:30
- T BIOMED prefix request
- T BIOMD 301 General Microbiology
- T BIOMD 302 Human Physiology
- T BIOMD 303 Cellular Biology
- T BIOMD 307 Genetics and Genomics
- T BIOMD 310 Foundational Skills in Biomedical Sciences
- T BIOMD 410 Biomedical Sciences Seminar

b. Program Changes: Eliminating the CSS Minor

III. VCAA Report

IV. New Course Proposals

- T ESC 510 Environmental Health and Toxicology
- T CRIM 365 Facing Harm: Victim Offender Dialogue
- T CSS 582 Cryptographic Protocols * returned from March meeting
- T GIS 508 Practicum Implementation

V. Course Change Proposals

- T CRIM 200 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- T SOCWF 351 Applied Statistics in Social and Human Services

VI. Other Business

- Summer Stipend Final Policy
- Spring Elections – Term is up this year for: Chair, Business, Nursing, Social Work, Urban Studies, and SIAS



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Minutes

Present: Alissa Ackerman (substitute for Janice Laakso), Kathy Beaudoin, Andrea Coker-Anderson, Jane Compson, Lorraine Dinnel, Linda Ishem, Bill Kunz, Lauren Montgomery, Jocelyn Patterson, Patrick Pow, Jenny Sheng, Jennifer Sundheim, and Alexis Wilson

Absent: Luther Adams and Doug Wills

I. Consent Agenda – Minutes: 3/18/15

The minutes from the March 18th meeting were accepted.

II. Program Reviews

a. New Programs

- B.S. - Biomedical Sciences, 1503 Bonnie Becker, Associate Dean of Curriculum and Academic Initiatives, SIAS; and Erica Cline, Sciences and Mathematics Division Chair, SIAS
- T BIOMED prefix request
- T BIOMD 301 General Microbiology
- T BIOMD 302 Human Physiology
- T BIOMD 303 Cellular Biology
- T BIOMD 307 Genetics and Genomics
- T BIOMD 310 Foundational Skills in Biomedical Sciences
- T BIOMD 410 Biomedical Sciences Seminar

Presentation

The motivation for the degree is to offer additional broader biology courses to serve pre-medical students and others that are interested in a variety of biology studies. Bill Kunz backed the proclamation of interest saying that he had student and parents ask him about premedical degree at UWT for a few years. If it was solely biology, the program would need to host plant biology, etc. A Biology option within Environmental Science exists already. A Biomedical degree relates more to human health. The program plans to admit students in the fall next year. The first year of courses is already offered, but the program will start fall 2016.

Faculty asked if Erica and Bonnie had an idea if this program would grow faster than expected. Erica answered it would close itself sooner. There would be an

economy of scale. The salary for tenured/tenure-track faculty needs to keep up with the economy norms. There will also be start up fees for the laboratories. UWT offers some of these courses already. There will be economy of scale because the courses will not be offered once per year but 4 or 5 times, rather. It will be efficient with more students. Bill said that Bothell has 250-300 majors with a program that is 5 or fewer years old. Erica said that the Hanover Report with comparable institutions helped them design the program. This program could easily double in size.

The committee asked why the prerequisites are not consistent. The GPA requirements vary. Erica said that the GPAs required to progress in the sequence are set to match those in UW Seattle's Biology sequence so that they may be considered equivalent courses. Once a student progresses through the prerequisites and the introductory classes, there are no GPA requirements. Chemistry and biology requirements are different.

The committee congratulated the program as the first program to have all the stakeholders sign off.

Faculty asked why there were no psychology courses incorporated. Erica responded that they are offered as electives, but not requirements, and that students are encouraged to take 101 as a CORE class. The program designers were nervous to add more required credits.

A member asked if this program is South Sound-focused and/or community-focused. Erica answered that was the intention and will consider that in the selection of faculty.

Discussion

The committee showed enthusiasm for a strong, hard science program. Students have struggled to gather pre-medical courses in the past.

Vote

Jane Compson moved to approve; Linda Ishem seconded. The motion passed with 6 unanimous votes and no abstentions nor opposition.

b. Program Changes: Eliminating the CSS Minor

Vote

Linda Ishem moved to approve; Jane Compson seconded. The motion passed with 6 unanimous votes and no abstentions nor opposition.

III. VCAA Report

Discussion

Bill Kunz distributed a *UW Tacoma New Degree and Major Proposals* flow chart. There needs to be a Planning Notice of Intent (PNOI) even without the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Board. The PNOI would be brought to APCC for review and comments. Proposers need to consider this process taking two years. Faculty expressed concern that so many programs have come through

without someone coordinating. Bill said that the VCAA or VCFA discusses the framework with the dean or director and faculty proposing early in one of the first two quarters. The budget and resources will be reviewed in that step. Faculty asked that that step be articulated strongly in the flowchart. Bill took note. Faculty voiced that even though a unit might like to create a program, it is not for sure that campus or the region are ready.

IV. New Course Proposals

- T ESC 510 Environmental Health and Toxicology
- T CRIM 365 Facing Harm: Victim Offender Dialogue
- T CSS 582 Cryptographic Protocols * returned from March meeting

V. T GIS 508 Practicum Implementation

Discussion

The Chair stated that TCSS 582 was reviewed last month, but there was an administrative mistake in the number of contact hours. Also, there was no potential duplication, but the unit still requested and received a signature.

Regarding TGIS, the committee agreed that usually new proposals should have the readings, but since it is a practicum, they would overlook that detail.

Vote

Linda Ishem moved to approve; Alissa Ackerman seconded. The motion passed with 6 unanimous votes and no abstentions nor opposition.

VI. Course Change Proposals

- T CRIM 200 Introduction to Criminal Justice
- T SOCWF 351 Applied Statistics in Social and Human Services

Discussion

The committee commented that it was interesting to see 300-level course that has a total of 100 points; each point will be worth one percentage of the grade.

Vote

Linda Ishem moved to approve; Alissa Ackerman seconded. The motion passed with 6 unanimous votes and no abstentions nor opposition.

VII. Other Business

a. Summer Stipend Final Policy

There was no discussion; the committee showed understanding.

b. Spring Elections

Discussion

Lauren Montgomery reminded faculty their term is three years starting in September. Those finishing this year are: Business, Nursing, Social Work, Urban Studies, and SIAS. The year-term of committee chair position is also ending.

Lauren also announced she would be willing to run as SIAS representative and committee chair again.

Jocelyn Patterson will bring next UWTAS President to the June meeting.

Graduation Petitions Process

Presentation and Discussion

Jeri Carter, Dean of Student Success, presented as a resource to the committee. For graduation petitions, if a student with a disability petitions on the basis of a disability, Jeri writes a letter qualifying the disability and recommending a warranted consideration. These letters are written sparingly. Her letter certifies that their disability falls into an appropriate category that says it ought to be considered, but she cannot tell the committee that the waiver/petition should be approved.

Jeri asked if it would be helpful to include specific information to say what foreign language a student has attempted and how many times. The Registrar usually provides that information.

The faculty felt that, in some cases, they do not have enough information on the disability. They asked if Disability Support Services could share a category. Jeri answered that if the letter is written, the decision is not based on a mobility issue, because that would not impede them in a language class. The letter should not be making a request of the faculty, but rather informing them of the facts. Jeri said she would be available to make limited comments and share some opinions in a closed meeting, but cannot write the same things in a letter. The committee can invite Jeri to future meetings regarding petitions. She will attend and help navigate the committee through their decision.

Concern arose that students are not advocating for themselves in their letters. If someone on the committee does not know the student, the committee might not be able to make a favorable decision. Students can ask DSS for help to transcribe their thought into words to create a strong petition. The committee has seen several one sentence letters lately.

Members asked about the increase of graduation petitions. Jeri said there are more students with more complexities; students with severe disabilities are making it further in their education career than ever. There is an increase of folks with injuries and traumas who will not be able to succeed through the language courses. Neurological evaluations are necessary to parse differences out.

Jeri's future concern lies in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) because it is possible that someone with combat-relative PTSD cannot get through a foreign language. Meanwhile another person with the same diagnosis can get through the requirement. This is the disability that is more subjective than others. It is a mental health and emotional disability, and, therefore, a more difficult judgment call than other disabilities.

Committee-only Discussion

There were a lot of consequences due to one of the recent petitions. A member asked the group if there should be an appeal process in place and, if so, to whom would the students appeal. The committee asked if this would be a part of or in addition to asking for more information of the student. The committee agreed to ask for more information, first, before denying a petition. Lauren and Andrea Coker-Anderson agreed to work on an appeal process. Andrea said the petition form will be reviewed as well.