

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2019-20 Meeting #17, February 24, 2020

Members (those present in bold):

Lori Baker-Eveleth, Chair*
Mark Adams*
Bert Baumgaertner*
Julie Beeston*
Lindsey Brown
Stone Carranza*

Jim Connors*
Stephen Fox*
Jean-Marc Gauthier*
Anna Hanigan*
Cher Hendricks
Aleksandra Hollingshead*

Mark Nielsen*
Dean Panttaja
Diane Prorak*
Francesca Sammarruca
Steven Shook*
Sanjay Sisodiya*

* indicates voting member

Guests Present: Rebecca Frost, Peter Fuerst, John Hiller, Marlane Martonick, James Nagler, Taylor Raney, Whitney Vincent, Mark Warner

Lori Baker-Eveleth called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

The February 9, 2020 minutes were approved.

Announcements and Communications

- Taylor Raney attended to vote as proxy for Aleksandra Hollingshead.

Unfinished Business

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-014 v.2

Item under consideration: Academic Honors Policy

Speaker: Lindsey Brown

Discussion: The current method of determining honors is difficult to calculate and confusing for students, since it is a moving target. Lindsey Brown gave out examples of requirements from peer institutions – attached. Mark Nielsen introduced two of his department chairs. On behalf of the College of Science, they are opposed to this because the university does not have a uniform grading scale or standard. Grades can differ dramatically from one college to another, and having a set GPA range to qualify for honors could penalize those colleges that have lower average GPAs. Mark Nielsen handed out a comparison of average GPAs from the different UI colleges – attached. He thinks having a set GPA range for honors waters down the standard. Right now, you know exactly what honors mean in comparison to a student's peers. That would not be the case under the new proposal. Mark Nielsen asked what problem we are trying to fix. Lindsey Brown explained that right now, students do not know if they will be receiving honors until they pick up their regalia at grad fest. In addition, the wording of the policy is difficult to understand and explain to students. Mark Nielsen is not opposed to simplifying or clarifying the language, but he has a strong preference for maintaining a GPA requirement relative to one's peers in a given college. Jean-Marc Gauthier agrees. Lindsey Brown pointed out that our current

requirements are at the very top of the comparable requirements from our peer institutions. Thus, our students are competing against graduates from other institutions who have honors when our students may not, even though they perform as well academically. Bert Baumgaertner mentioned that he did not realize what a substantial change this is. He would like the opportunity to discuss this change with department chairs in CLASS. Lindsey Brown said this proposal is open to discussion and she is not wedded to this exact proposal. She would welcome alternative ideas. She modeled these GPA requirements on Clemson, which had the highest requirements of our peer institutions. Sanjay Sisodiya asked if publishing the last several years' student GPA averages would help students, since it would give them a general baseline. There was also discussion about whether the GPA calculations include the final semester. They do. So theoretically, a student could walk with a particular honor cord at commencement and then not actually earn that honor based on their last semester grades. Mark Nielsen mentioned he would be fine eliminating that last semester's grades from consideration if that would help. Steven Shook asked how many students come into the Registrar's Office to ask about whether they will qualify for honors. Lindsey Brown replied that those questions generally arise at Grad Fest. Steven Shook mentioned that students must not be looking to change their performance at that point, since it is too late to make a substantial change in their GPA.

Motion to table: Taylor Raney

Second: Steven Shook

Outcome: Unanimously approved

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-019 v.2

Item under consideration: EDSP 120

Speaker: Taylor Raney

Discussion: The Career and Community Studies program is designed to help students with intellectual disabilities develop work skills and experience. This course is being created so that students in that program can receive credit. Lindsey Brown asked two questions: 1) Is this college-level work? And 2) Why don't they use the existing 298 Internship class to fill this need? Taylor Raney thinks that could work and is something they can discuss as a program. Jim Connors asked whether there will be enough students enrolled to prevent this from getting low enrollment status. Answer: not necessarily, but enrollment restrictions might not apply to Internships if they go that route. Lindsey Brown has pointed out that the Career and Community Studies Certificate has not been approved yet. Sanjay Sisodiya asked whether this proposal should wait and be paired with the certificate, if the certificate has not yet been approved. Lindsey Brown again suggested that this be offered as EDSP 298. Taylor Raney thinks that is an acceptable option. Lori Baker-Eveleth asked whether offering this as a 298 would enable the college to track these students appropriately. Several people mentioned that 298s are subtitleable. It appears that option will work, so Taylor Raney pulled the proposal.

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-032 v.3

Items under consideration: B.A. and B.S. in Sociology

Speaker: Mark Warner

Discussion: This proposal came forward in December but there was confusion about whether it was the most recent version of changes. The biggest change being proposed now is removing Criminology as an emphasis, since it will now be its own major. Lori Baker-Eveleth clarified that two emphases will remain: "Inequalities and Globalization" and "Sociology." Mark Warner believes the goal is to move towards one

Sociology degree – without emphases – but that was too big a change to accomplish this year so the department focused primarily on getting rid of the Criminology emphasis. He hopes the larger change will come forward next year. Lori Baker-Eveleth and several other committee members think it's redundant to offer a Sociology degree with a Sociology emphasis. Mark Nielsen suggested calling emphasis B "General." Mark Warner is unsure what the department would say about that, but if the will of the committee goes that direction he thinks it will be okay. Bert Baumgaertner would like the friendly amendment to be contingent on approval from the department. He is willing to get that approval from them prior to our next meeting. Amy Kingston will follow up as needed.

Friendly Amendment: Rename Emphasis B – "General"

Motion to amend: Bert Baumgaertner

Second: Mark Nielsen

Outcome: Unanimously approved

Motion to pass as amended: Jim Connors

Second: Sanjay Sisodiya

Outcome: Unanimously approved

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-057

Item under consideration: AERO 391

Discussion: Taylor asked why we would want to drop this if it is a cooperative course. Rebecca clarified that all the Air Force instructors are all at WSU – we have none here at UI. If they are dropping it from our catalog, it is likely they also dropped it at WSU and are no longer teaching this course. Mark Nielsen asked whether non-AFROTC students are eligible to take the course. Amy Kingston replied yes, she has seen that happen. Mark Nielsen replied that he wishes we could keep this on the books so he can take it. Taylor is concerned that removing this from the books will create a barrier to ROTC students who want to become pilots. The representative from Aerospace Studies was not immediately available to answer questions but could be available later in the meeting, if needed.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Steven Shook

Outcome: Unanimously approved

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-058

Items under consideration: MEDS 518, MEDS 527, MEDS 528

Speakers: Marlane Martonick, Whitney Vincent

Discussion: Lori Baker-Eveleth pointed out that the proposed MEDS 518 has the same title as an existing MEDS 517. Whitney clarified that they are not creating a new course. They want to reduce the credit hours on the existing MEDS 517 to 1 credit. Amy Kingston will update the proposal accordingly. From MEDS 527 and 528, Lori Baker-Eveleth asked whether the III represented roman numerals. Whitney Vincent clarified that it does not. Rather, it is an abbreviation for the course title ("Independent Investigative Inquiry"). Lori Baker-Eveleth clarified the prerequisites. It was determined that MEDS 527 must be taken prior to MEDS 528, so the committee is including a friendly amendment to add MEDS 527 as a prerequisite for MEDS 528. Jim Connors asked why these are two different courses if one is the final for the other. Marlane Martonick explained that they take place in different semesters. Jim Connors replied that the titles should be more clearly delineated. After clarifying the content of MEDS

528, the committee suggested a friendly amendment to rename MEDS 527 as “Investigative Inquiry” and MEDS 528 as “Investigative Inquiry Project.” Short title are not needed – both title fit within 30 characters now.

Friendly Amendments: Change MEDS 517 credit hours to 1 (as opposed to adding MEDS 518); Add prerequisite of MEDS 527 to MEDS 528; MEDS 527 title = Investigative Inquiry; MEDS 528 title = Investigative Inquiry Project

Motion to pass as amended: Bert Baumgaertner

Second: Jim Connors

Outcome: Unanimously approved

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-059

Items under consideration: INTR 201, ANTH 462/562

Motion: Mark Nielsen

Second: Sanjay Sisodiya

Outcome: Unanimously approved

UCC Agenda Number: UCC-20-060

Item under consideration: First-Year Admissions Requirements

Speaker: Lindsey Brown

Discussion: In 2016, SAT changed their scoring scale and the catalog was never updated. This proposal will fix that. It adds an additional column of score ranges for students who took the SAT in March 2016 or after. This table was given to us by the SAT board. Jim Connors asked how long the column for pre-March 2016 will need to be included. Lindsey Brown does not think SAT scores expire, but that would be a question for Admissions.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Bert Baumgaertner

Outcome: Unanimously approved

Additional Questions or Discussion

- There was discussion about remaining UCC meetings. Meetings are planned for March 2, March 9, and March 23. That will likely be the end of this UCC cycle.

Chairperson Lori Baker-Eveleth closed the meeting at 4:40 pm. UCC will reconvene on Monday, December 9, 2019.

Amy Kingston
UCC Secretary