

University Curriculum Committee Meeting

Meeting #6, October 21, 2024

Members (those present in bold; * indicates a voting member):

Erin James, Chair*

Barb Kirchmeier

Francesca Sammarruca

Dave Paul*

Stacy Isenbarger*

Stacey Doumit*

Young Park*

Dan Cordon*

Steve Shook*

Erkan Buzbas*

Norman Lee*

Mark Adams*

Derrick Phillips*

Lindsey Brown

Paul Tietz*

Anya Zuercher*

Gwen Gorzelsky

Guests present: Ted Unzicker, Annette Folwell, Chantel Vella, Daniel Eveleth, Rebecca Frost, Jules BC Beeston, Whitney Vincent, Florian Justwan, Thomas Farrer, Yin Hong Cheah, Russell Qualls, Gabriel Potirniche, Mya Groza, Bert Baumgaertner, Andrew Scheef, and Sanjay Sisodia

- I. Chair Erin James called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.
- II. October 14, 2024 minutes were approved.
- III. Announcements and Communications
 - a. Erin discussed her creation of a Google folder for documents related to the Vandal Gateway Program and requested feedback and additional questions over the next couple of weeks.
 - b. Steve announced that their classroom scheduling resolution was approved by Faculty Senate. He also asked why advising holds weren't being put in place yet. Lindsey Brown explained that while the holds are in place, they could not be enacted until after the deadline to drop a class with a W has been passed, and advisors should have been notified of this policy. Holds can still be removed through advisee management or when the holds are activated on October 28th.
 - c. Steve raised concerns about many proposed certificates not being included in the university's three-year plan. Gwen explained that historically, the State Board has accepted proposals developed after the three-year plan deadline due to variance in deadlines. Gwen further added that while the 3-Z policy has recently been revised to make requirements more explicit, in practice, the State Board has allowed some flexibility for programs developed after the three-year plan deadline due to a

transitional period after the revision. There has also been discussion by State Board staff members on the need for additional policies to be implemented for these types of situations. Gwen recommended that UCC continue to approve certificates (unless there are additional concerns regarding curriculum) so that they can continue to advance through the process, and advice should then be sought from the State Board.

However, Steve argued that approving so many certificates outside the three-year plan violates policy and undermines the purpose of having the State Board review proposals to avoid duplication. He expressed discomfort at approving certificates in a way that did not conform with policy. Gwen clarified that the Council of Academic Affairs and Programs (CAAP) does not typically discuss certificates under 30 credits and only receive letters of notifications for these certificates. Institutions are not required to list certificates under 30 credits on the three-year plan, but U of I typically includes them when they're aware of them because the State Board finds the information helpful.

After a brief discussion, Steve requested to see specific policy information regarding the 30-credit certificate distinction, and Gwen planned to research the issue to ensure correct information was shared and send it to him after the meeting. She also planned to research the latest three-year plan instructions to investigate what information needed to be included.

IV. New Business

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-026

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit ESHS 2320, ESHS 2750, EDCI 4090, EDCI 4480, and EDCI 5820

Speaker: Chantel Vella, Andrew Scheef, and Yin Hong Cheah

Discussion: These proposals included changes in credit amount, course descriptions, prerequisites, and course titles. Lindsey Brown noted the length of the course description in EDCI 5820 and suggested removing the second paragraph to reduce the length and remove prerequisites that the Registrar's Office could not enforce. Yin agreed to the change.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edit

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-026

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add EHHS subject prefix

Speaker: Andrew Scheef

Discussion: No discussion needed.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-026

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit English as a Second Language Teaching Minor

Speaker: Andrew Scheef

Discussion: The title of this program was being changed due to changes in the State Board policy.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-026

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add Career and Community Studies Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Andrew Scheef

Discussion: Lindsey Brown expressed concerns about being able to restrict the certificate to only Vandal QUEST students. Andrew explained that several of the required courses require instructor permission to ensure Vandal QUEST student enrollment only. Stacy Isenbarger noted that some of the courses mentioned include that the coursework is specific to Vandal QUEST students, but others do not. Andrew also noted that it wasn't a problem if other students beyond Vandal QUEST wanted to enroll in the certificate program.

Stacy Isenbarger expressed concern that many of the requirements were only at the 1000 level, prompting the question of whether a student has learned a sufficient amount of content to warrant earning a certificate. Stacey Doumit also asked what a student's takeaway (skills, knowledge, etc.) may include. Andrew explained the value of having an industry certificate in the workplace and how this certificate could aid the Vandal QUEST students, who are individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

There was a brief discussion on the admission status of the Vandal QUEST students, as Vandal QUEST students are currently listed as non-degree seeking students. Steve asked how many students Vandal QUEST had outside of the Moscow school district, and Andrew explained that they had none, as their participants are all dual-enrolled students. Lindsey explained that dual-credit students can't earn certificates because they are listed as non-degree seeking students. Stacy Isenbarger suggested going through the coursework that is specific to the certificate and editing the courses to include Vandal QUEST in the description. Dave Paul planned to work with Lindsey to revise the course descriptions and make the association with Vandal QUEST clearer as well as clarify the dual-enrollment issue.

Outcome: Postponed for further discussion on prerequisite structure for the certificate and attached courses

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-027

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit College of Law Admission Requirements

Speaker: Mark Adams

Discussion: Lindsey Brown noted the number of questions the Registrar's Office receives regarding the tuition structure of the College of Law and suggested the catalog information be updated to clarify this to students. Otherwise, no discussion needed.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-028

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Cybersecurity BS

Speaker: Jules BC Beeston and Gabriel Potirniche

Discussion: This proposal requested the addition of Coeur d'Alene as a geological region where the program could be offered.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-033

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add Chemical Engineering of Semiconductors Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Gabriel Potirniche

Discussion: No discussion needed.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-029

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Environmental Soil Science BSSWS

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: This proposal included adding new electives and a new introductory course that was previously approved in an effort to strengthen the program's focus while still providing flexibility.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-030

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add DAS 6001 and 6002

Speaker: Thomas Farrer

Discussion: Erin noted that one word in DAS 6001 should be lowercase (programs) and suggested removing the following sentence, as it reads more as a course justification than a course description. Dave asked for further information about the learning outcomes for both courses. After hearing Thomas's response, Dave suggested working with Sydney to include that language in the course proposal documentation. Lindsey also suggested removing "online" from the first sentence of DAS 6001 to provide more flexibility in the future. She also suggested removing the specific course titles of previous coursework from DAS 6002. The committee decided to edit "Advanced Gross Anatomy I and II courses" to "previous coursework" instead. Thomas agreed to all the proposed changes.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-031

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add Philosophy Fundamentals Undergraduate Academic Certificate, History of Philosophical Ideas and Thought Undergraduate Certificate, Political Data Analysis and Methodology Undergraduate Academic Certificate, and Public Policy Analysis Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Florian Justwan and Bert Baumgaertner

Discussion: The committee discussed four new certificates: two in philosophy and two in political science. The Philosophy Fundamentals Certificate was designed for online learners, while the political science certificates guide students to focus on specific skills. Dave noted that some of the certificates could be earned by completing the philosophy or political science bachelor's degrees, and Florian said they could. This prompted a discussion on the need for certificate guidelines to avoid "double dipping" or manipulation of the university budget model to increase departmental budgets.

Steve raised concerns about the lack of a statistics course in the Political Data Analysis and Methodology Certificate, as many similar programs on data analytics include at least one statistics course and it is a needed skill for the area. Florian explained that statistics is built into the required research methods courses, even if it isn't explicitly stated, and Steve expressed concern that students weren't developing the depth of knowledge this certificate called for by not requiring a statistics-specific course. After a brief discussion, the committee recommended amending the certificate title to remove "Data" to convey that distinction, and Florian agreed to the change.

Steve also asked for the rationale of including the elective options they decided upon. Florian explained that there are two major teaching focuses within political science coursework: one on policy analysis and one on scientific methods. The chosen electives fit within the latter category.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edit

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-031

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Political Science BS

Speaker: Florian Justwan

Discussion: This proposal requested adding the program to be available online.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-032

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add People Management Undergraduate Academic Certificate and Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Mya Groza, Daniel Eveleth, Young Park, and Sanjay Sisodiya

Discussion: Erin expressed concern about the similarities in certificate titles between the existing Corporate Social Responsibility Certificate in CLASS and the proposed Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Certificate. Sanjay pointed to the difference in CIP codes and explained that the existing certificate focuses more on the social skills aspect of business while the proposed certificate focuses more primarily on the managerial side of business, thus drawing different target audiences to each certificate.

Lindsey noted that the final requirement in the Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Certificate (three credits from the Ecological and/or Social sections in the Sustainability Certificate) may be difficult to enforce, and it relies on the Registrar's Office remembering and making any needed changes to the certificate's degree audit when changes to the Sustainability Certificate are made, and these changes may be missed. The department representatives said they understood and elected to leave the certificate as is.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

Chair Erin James closed the meeting at 5:03 pm.

Sydney Beal-Coles
UCC Secretary