

CAS Faculty Assembly
March 7, 2025
2 PM
Kinard Auditorium (018)
AGENDA

- I. Welcome and approval of minutes (Jo Koster) – [Appendix A](#)
- II. Committee business:
 - a. Curriculum Committee (Jenny Schafer) – [Appendix B](#)
 - b. Nominating and Rules Committee (Sylvia Wozniak)
 - i. Microcertificate Bylaws Changes
 - ii. Faculty Elections – [Appendix C](#)
 - c. Diversity and Inclusion Committee (Jennifer Dixon McKnight and Katharine Hubbard)
- III. Old Business
 - a. Update on Student Evaluation of Learning Process (Jo Koster and Ginger Williams)
- IV. New Business
 - a. CAS Senior Instructor Policy (Greg Oakes)
 - b. Tenure & Promotion application modification (Greg Oakes)
- V. Remarks from the Dean (Takita Sumter)
- VI. Announcements
 - a. Graduate Council meets immediately following adjournment
- VII. Thanks and Adjournment for 2024-2025

Note: Quorum (35% of full-time faculty is 49 faculty members for Faculty Assembly. The minimum attendance to do business (20% of full-time faculty) is 28 faculty members.

Appendix A

College of Arts and Sciences

Faculty Assembly

January 24, 2025

2:30 PM

Kinard Auditorium 018

Meeting Minutes

- I. Greetings and remarks from the Chair – Jo Koster
 - a. Called to order at 2:32
 - b. Quorum met with 52 + zoom
- II. Approval of the Minutes from the October 18, 2024, meeting – [Appendix A](#)
 - a. Minutes approved
- III. Report from the Curriculum Committee (*December and January meetings*) – Jenny Schafer – [Appendix B](#)
 - a. There's curriculum from both December and January.
 - b. New Programs- all approved
 - i. BA in Sociology-Pre-Law Concentration
 - ii. BA in Sociology- UX Research Concentration
 - c. Program Modifications- all approved
 - i. BS in Biology - removes freshman symposium and specifies Math course
 - ii. BS in Biology - Biomedical Research: same
 - iii. BS in Biology - Bio-Conservation: same
 - iv. BA in English - adds recently created courses to the major
 - v. Minor in Writing - adds recently created courses to the minor
 - vi. BA in Psychology - reduces hours in the experimental sequence & adds one hour to the major (36 to 37)
 - d. Course Modifications-All approved

- i. BS in Biology - removes freshman symposium and specifies Math course
 - ii. BS in Biology - Biomedical Research: same
 - iii. BS in Biology - Bio-Conservation: same
 - iv. BA in English - adds recently created courses to the major
 - v. Minor in Writing - adds recently created courses to the minor
 - vi. BA in Psychology - reduces hours in the experimental sequence & adds one hour to the major (36 to 37)
 - vii. SCWK 541: change in course title (a number of other social work courses were referred back to the department and not brought for consideration)
- e. Inactivated courses: Chem 531 (been replaced by CHEM 332), approved
- f. New courses- all approved
 - i. ENVS 493: Creates an independent research option
 - ii. ENVS 494: Creates an independent research option
 - iii. SOCL 359 (cross listed with PSYC 359)
- g. Blanket petitions:
 - i. Student petitions from Dec 202r4 were discussed and approved by curriculum
- h. Next meeting Feb 25, @ 11am, materials must be in course dog a week before.

IV. Rules Committee – Silvia Wozniak – [Appendix C](#)

- a. As a result of the faculty governance from the university, CAS bylaws had to be updated to account for changes as a result of the microcertificate programs introduced. They propose bylaw changes to add the microcertificate.
- b. Discussion for adding to the agenda- none
- c. Approved adding to the agenda for next meeting.

V. Report from the DEI Committee – Jennifer Dixon-McKnight & Katharine Hubbard

- a. A conversation was started to discuss the actions and reactions we should take as a result of a potential bill from the house on revoking DEI in higher education decisions. Do we wait and see, and then react based on what happens, or pre-emptive
- b. In light of POTUS executive orders for federal regulations, how do we react and predict as a state institution.
- c. Overwhelming consensus of those speaking (Greg Oakes, M.Gil-history, sylvia, Jennifer-poli sci., Takita, etc) is to wait and see, and continuing doing our jobs well
- d. Is the people on the committees related- vulnerable contingent
- e. What to do when ICE comes to our classrooms—what administrative guideline do we have
- f. Takita—what do we teach comfort with topics vs what we can teach now—credence to the academic content and expectations- the first job is to teach and teach well—our disciplines are already engrained and make pedagogical connections and foundations. With dreamers, etc: the likelihood is low of them coming to our classes, but it is likely we will have students affected by ICE, etc. Empathy and compassion with our students.

VI. Old Business

- a. Very brief update on Revisions of Student Evaluation process – Jo Koster
 - i. We're now contracted with Watermark, and we're now piloting with a group of students across every college with about 200 students.
 - ii. <https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/facultyconference/agenda-minutes-2021-11-19.pdf> for more information.
 - iii. Full details coming next meeting

VII. New Business

- a. Greg Oakes, Degree Completion Proposal
 - i. Greg Oakes presented to the faculty a program being discussed and moving through curriculum process approvals for helping “students who have accrued hours at Winthrop and need a route to graduation. The population that we are targeting includes traditional, on-campus students and traditional transfer students.”

- ii. Committee: Casey Cothran (ENGL), Vicky Frost (BIOL), Arran Hamm (MATH), Lauren Kohut (ENVS), Mike Lipscomb (PLSC), Donna Nelson (PSYC), Julie Orme (SCWK), Ginger Williams (IDVS, HIST), Sherri Wilson (Student Services)
- iii. Committee sought to maximize use of existing courses, minimize further coursework, and prepare them for careers. Also provide disciplinary breadth with some depth, but less emphasis on a specific discipline.
- iv. There's three "buckets" students would choose from: STEM, Social Sciences, and Humanities. Students would pick a primary area with 27 hours and a secondary area with 18 hours. Would have a recommended capstone/summative experience.
- v. Specific courses for the buckets are listed in the meeting slides.
- vi. Students must have a minimum of 75 hours to completion in order to declare the major. No minor requirement and no language requirement.
- vii. Thoughts and such are invited before curriculum actions due by Feb 18th to CAS Curriculum Committee.

VIII. Remarks from the Dean – Takita Sumter

- a. Senior Instructor Promotions
 - i. New protocol was rolled out, and first submissions will be Feb 1. Going from Chair and then moved up beginning with a 3-party committee based on the applicant depts. Recommendations go to Takita, then to provost.
- b. Upcoming Search for IDVD Director
 - i. Individualized Studies, Ginger is stepping down, and they'll be replacing and taking that program forward
- c. Facilities update
 - i. Sims currently have a flood being cleaned up and mitigated. Sims and Dalton have plans for this summer for renovations. 9 million total
 - ii. Phase 2 Kinard updates start in couple of weeks and continue into Summer 2025- including new carpet in and cleaning and potential

upholstery of chairs in Kinard 018—Kinard bathrooms are also getting a facelift. There's a new student study lounge on 2nd floor and one being considered on the 3rd floor

iii. Faculty Kudos

1. Kori Bloomquist has publication and presentation
2. Sara English has two conference presentations
3. Veronica Ahadzie has 2 publications
4. Several others... check notes

iv. Distinguished appts

1. Sal Blair- undergraduate research director
2. Hope Lima SC maternal health taskforce
3. Kristin Kiblinger- book reviews editor
4. Sara English-

v. Noteworthy accomplishments

1. Model UN Conference Students took many of the top prizes-5 top awards
2. Betsy Ryerson won a top award at Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Scientists

vi. Research Council Grants applications due January 28th

vii. CAS scholarship applications deadline extended to Feb 3rd

viii. EPIC competition with YCNGA

- ix. Chester county gave money towards offering healthcare majors scholarships that are renewable each year
- x. Emergency retention scholarships were awarded to keep students here for the spring

IX. Announcements

- a. Graduate Faculty Committee meets immediately after adjournment
- b. Research Council Grants Applications deadline – January 28, 2025

- c. Elections are coming up for positions that are available
 - d. McNair applications deadline from first generation AND low-income backgrounds was extended
- X. Adjournment. Next (and final) meeting of the year is Friday, March 7, 2 PM
- a. Motion to adjourn, seconded. Ended at 3:53.

Note: Quorum (35% of full-time faculty) is 49 faculty members for Faculty Assembly.
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Appendix B

College of Arts and Sciences
Curriculum Committee Minutes
February 25, 2025 @ 11:00 am
Kinard 105

Attendees: Veronica Ahadzie, Gwen Daley, Sara English, Heather Listhartke, Greg Oakes (representing the Dean's Office; also representing the Bachelor of General Studies committee), Tom Polaski, Jenny Schafer, Jeffrey Sinn, Clara Whitehead (student representative).

1. WELCOME

- Jennifer Schafer, Chair, opened meeting, at 11:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Approval of minutes, with changes, without dissent.

3. NEW PROGRAMS

College of Arts and Sciences

- **Bachelor of General Studies**
 - Program proposal discussed, including programming issues, which will be discussed with the BGS committee. Curriculum Committee will vote on any changes to proposed program, via Qualtrics, prior to the upcoming CAS Faculty Assembly (February 28, 2025).

4. CHANGES TO EXISTING PROGRAMS

Department of Social Work

- Approved proposal to add foreign language requirement to BSW

5. MODIFIED COURSES

Department of Chemistry, Physics, Geology, and The Environment

- GEOL201
 - Approved proposed name change to "The Violent Earth"

Department of Mathematics

- MATH370
 - Approved proposal to change prerequisites, allowing more majors to take this course

6. INACTIVATED COURSES

- No business

7. NEW COURSES

- Department of Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, and Legal Studies
 - Approved, PLSC330

8. BLANKET PETITIONS

- Two petitions from Department of Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, and Legal Studies approved

9. STUDENT PETITIONS

- No student petitions

NEXT MEETING: April 15, 2025 at 11:00, in Kinard 105.

Appendix C

CAS Elections 25/26

1. CAS Faculty Personnel Committee

- a. 3 seats replacing the 2025 expirations
 - i. Each are 2-year terms (25-27); tenured faculty

2. Faculty Assembly Chair

- a. 1 seat
 - i. 1-year term (25-26); tenured faculty

3. Graduate Faculty Committee Chair

- a. 1 seat
 - i. 1-year term

4. Univ. Fac. Personnel/Nominating and Rules *(2025 person looks like they should also be on Univ. Fac. Personnel)*

- a. 3-year term; tenured faculty; chairs cannot serve

5. CAS Curriculum (no CHEM, SOCL, ENGL, PSYC)

- a. 3 seats
 - i. Each are 2-year terms (25-27)