

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
AGENDA
September 21, 2018
MacFeat Conference Room A**

Kristen Abernathy	Arts & Sciences
Bettie Parsons Barger	Education
DeAnn Brame	Library
Alice Burmeister	Visual & Performing Arts
Kelly Costner	Education
Jennifer Disney	Arts and Sciences
Marguerite Doman*	Business Administration
Chlotia Garrison	Business Administration
Laura Glasscock	Arts and Sciences
Adam Glover	Arts and Sciences
Matt Hayes	Arts and Sciences
Shawna Helf	Education
Jo Koster	Arts and Sciences
Alice McLaine*	Education
Jason Tselentis	Visual & Performing Arts
Michael Whitney	Business Administration
Kristen Wonderlich	Visual & Performing Arts
Ximena Perez-Valzco	CSL Student Representative
Gina Jones, Secretary	Registrar

*absent

Guests: Adrienne McCormick, P.N. Saksena, Jeff Belantoni, Tim Drueke, Debra Boyd, and Michael Lipscomb

I. Welcome back and comments (Jo Koster, Chair)

Chair Koster brought the Academic Council to order at 2:08 PM. Dr. Koster noted new faces at the table. Introductions were made.

II. Approval of the minutes for April 6, 2018, and April 20, 2018 (by e-mail)

III. Report from the Provost (Debra Boyd)

Dr. Boyd stated that committees are working on the Gen Ed and core. There seems to be a growing body of anecdotal evidence that students, especially transfers, are having difficulty coming to Winthrop because of the core. We don't want to keep students from coming to Winthrop University if they are qualified. This is not about lowering standards ~~are~~ or even

changing the core. She revealed that there are some legislative issues brewing relating to General Education. One question is whether we as a state are moving to accept associate degrees as meeting Gen Ed at any institution.

Dr. Boyd noted that we are in the state level process for the Bachelor of Professional Studies. The CHE Advisory Committee on Academic Programs (ACAP) approved the program and it is now on the agenda for the CHE Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL). Institutions are getting pushback from the state, especially about duplicating programs. As we prepare new programs, we have to be mindful that we distinguish ourselves in some way. She urged members that before they get too far in any program changes or new programs, talk to the Provost's office. Staffing may be an issue. The questions, "How much will it cost? How do we manage that when revenue is down?" are important. We need to manage our resources well.

Because the adult population is what we need to target, we're looking at another degree-completion program: RN to BSN. This has relatively low start-up costs.

We want to increase our presence in the cyber security area, so we're also looking at programming in that regard.

Dr. Koster asked when the Gen Ed core committee was meeting. Dr. Boyd responded that it was next week or the week after. They'll get their charge and will be reporting out early next semester.

IV. Report from the Council of Student Leaders (Ximena Perez-Velasco)

Ms. Perez-Valsco could not attend due to a McNair scholars meeting.

V. Report from the Committee on University Curriculum (Laura Glasscock)

The committee met via email since Winthrop University classes were cancelled due to inclement weather associated with Hurricane Florence. 16 courses were approved. One course, PHYS 250 was rejected by CUC.

PHYS 250: The course requested to change the prerequisite to: "Completion of General Education Quantitative Skills Requirement with a grade of S or C or above." This request was a carryover from last year. The committee felt that the course should accept a C- instead of a C to be consistent with the S. This vote was unanimous.

Dr. Boyd asked about the rationale for changing the pre-req. Dr. Abernathy indicated that they were merely adding the **S** (*for Satisfactory*).

VI. Report from the General Education Curriculum Committee (Kristen Abernathy)

A. Recertification

The following courses were approved for recertification in the appropriate categories:

SOCIAL SCIENCE

EDCO 200

ORAL

THRA 120

B. First Certify

The following course was approved for inclusion:

GLOBAL

MCOM 304

MCOM 304 was unanimously approved for Global.

VI. New Business

A. The Registrar (Gina Jones) requests that Academic Council consider whether the following statements are still required in the Undergraduate Catalog:

Transferring students who have completed course work in general studies programs are permitted to transfer only 15 semester hours of selected courses from such programs into any curriculum at Winthrop. The selection of the courses and the applicability to the curriculum is determined by the academic division receiving the student.

Only 65 hours from a two-year college may be applied toward a baccalaureate degree.

[See Supplemental Information on the last page of these minutes.]

Given that students have to complete at least 12 hours in their major at Winthrop and that they have to complete at least 40 hours above the 299 level, this number seems to be arbitrary and unnecessary. Dr. Disney asked what the recommendation was. Ms. Jones said to raise the number.

Dr. Wonderlich suggested that the number be removed. Mr. Tselentis said this was a lot of numbers to be throwing at the student (25% of 120...)

Dr. Disney asked if a student could bring in 90 hours. Mr. Druke said that most courses at a technical college would be freshman and sophomore level courses.

Dr. Boyd noted that they would need to be equivalent courses. She wasn't sure if having a number there is needed. They are not necessarily going to be accepted in the program.

Dr. Koster summarized the recommendation: the first statement regarding general studies can be eliminated.

The Council unanimously approved to eliminate the statement.

Mr. Tselentis asked if we thought this was a trend that more and more students will get associate degrees before getting bachelor's degree.

Ms. Jones commented that North Carolina already has this and that Coastal has this. Mr. Druke mentioned that Lander is also looking at this.

Dr. Disney stated maybe we should add a statement about the 40 hours above 299 and the 25% of the degree for residency. Dr. Abernathy was in favor of that.

The motion is to delete the hours and add it with above statement. Dr. Abernathy asked to integrate the paragraphs. The paragraphs will now read:

~~*Transferring students who have completed course work in general studies programs are permitted to transfer only 15 semester hours of selected courses from such programs into any curriculum at Winthrop. The selection of the courses and the applicability to the curriculum is determined by the academic division receiving the student.*~~

The individual college at Winthrop makes the final determination of the applicability of the accepted credit to the student's degree program. Only 65 semester hours from a two-year college may be applied toward a baccalaureate degree program at Winthrop. A transfer student must earn at least 25% of the semester hours of course credits at Winthrop to complete requirements for an undergraduate degree (30 hours in a 120-hour program). The degree must

include 40 hours above the 299-level. Transfer credit is not used in computing a student's grade-point average at Winthrop. However, it is used in computing eligibility for academic honors and the LIFE Scholarship.

The Council unanimously approved.

VII. Old Business

A. *Online attendance policy update (Jo Koster)*

Dr. Koster talked with Michelle Hare (Financial Aid Director) who gave her information on what constitutes attendance for online attendance. She hopes to have a draft for the Council to consider at the November meeting.

B. *Constitution Requirement discussions update (Members of the ad hoc committee)*

Dr. Garrison indicated there was no movement on this. Dr. Lipscomb mentioned that Gale Teaster-Woods (Library) did meet with the Department of Political Science during their May 2018 Retreat. Dr. Garrison has not received information from that meeting but indicated the committee was gathering input.

C. *Cultural Events Policy revisions update (Michael Lipscomb)*

Dr. Lipscomb said the committee was keeping up with issues and concerns that faculty have. One item he would like to work on is the Cultural Event website as there are some things not in the right place. He stated he wanted to meet with Dr. Koster to go over issues and have a formal report at the next meeting.

Dr. Wonderlich asked about student behavior and whether this is being addressed. She indicated the issue with cell phones caused a performer in a recent concert to stop and address the issue. She also mentioned that colleagues have asked not to have Cultural Event credit for their performances. Dr. Koster mentioned that CSL should be involved.

Dr. Boyd mentioned this is a pervasive problem, even with faculty and administrators. Dr. Lipscomb was encouraged to ask the Cultural Events committee to consider these issues when they bring forward their proposal to Academic Council.

D. *Proposal from the GRADE Group regarding plus/minus grading*

On behalf of Dr. Jones, Dr. Koster said Dr. Jones would like to return to AC to discuss further. Dr. Disney asked if we could get some data to examine. Mr. Drueke related that he has some he could share. He said he thought that GPAs remained virtually unchanged. Ms. Jones said probation and suspension went up the following year but leveled off.

Dr. Koster asked who was on the GRADE Group. Ms. Jones and Mr. Drueke provided that information.

Dr. Hayes asked about the impact of scholarships and the grades on the upper or lower hand.

Dr. Disney asked about the quality points and how they are administered. Schools can choose what a + or – is. Our current system could be changed. Dr. Koster indicated that if quality points were shifted up, there would be the perception of grade inflation.

E. *Discussion of moving the deadline for submitting final grades back to the end of the weekend of Commencement*

Dr. Boyd indicated that she spoke with the registrar's office personnel as this affects them. She asked for a timeline and discussed this with the group. The turn-around time in December is especially critical with grade processing. She asked if with the shortened time,

could R&R get this done or should this the exam times start earlier to give more time to grade?

Dr. Koster asked council members if they wanted to discuss this today or take this back to their colleges. Dr. McCormick indicated she had asked her chairs to discuss this.

Dr. Boyd indicated there are some instructors who will always be late. She asked that everyone encourage their colleagues to be on time. She mentioned that a long time ago, faculty made the decision to add the exam period [which decreases the amount of time for grading.]

VIII. Announcements/Adjournment

The next meeting is November 16 in the Polly Ford Room at the West Center.

Ms. Jones reminded everyone that interim grades were due at 5 PM on Oct. 5.

Dr. Koster mentioned that the retrospective show on Paul Martyka was tonight.

Dr. Koster adjourned the meeting at 3:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Jones, Secretary

Supplemental Information regarding Transfer Policy

History at Winthrop University:

In the 1977-78 catalog, part of the TR policy was that a student who had attended a junior college must earn at least 57 semester hours beyond that earned at a junior college. At that time, WU offered associate degrees which were 62-63 hours. Bachelor degrees were a minimum of 122. By the 1981-82 catalog, WU was no longer offering associate degrees and the rule about 65 hours being the maximum credits for transfer from a 2-year college was in place.

We've had the 40-hour above 299 rule for at least the last 40 years.

12 hours of course credits must be taken in residence at WU in the major discipline. This has only been a requirement since the mid-80's. ASC and BADM required it in the 70's.

Current Gen Ed requirement ranges from 38-53.

25% of course credits required for degree (30 hours in a 120-hour program) must be taken at WU.

Even if someone transferred 75 hours of credit from a 2-year institution, and they all applied to their degree program, they would still have to complete 45 hours at WU, well above the minimum 30 required for residency.

Clemson: does not mention a maximum number of hours it will accept from a two-year institution.

USC: A maximum of 76 semester hours may be transferred for degree credit from a junior college or two-year institution which is accredited by a regional association such as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

College of Charleston: The maximum number of transfer hours earned at a two-year institution that may be applied to the requirements for all College of Charleston bachelor's degrees is sixty (60) credit hours.

Appalachian State: does not mention a maximum number of hours it will accept from a two-year institution.

James Madison University: Under university policy there is actually no limit on the amount of credit that can be transferred to JMU.

UNCC: The University accepts a maximum of 64 credit hours from two year institutions for undergraduate students.

Community College requirements in AA and AS degrees:

Trident Tech's transfer program: 60 hours

Midlands Tech: 62 hours

York Tech: 61-63 hours

Tri-County: 60 hours

Spartanburg Methodist: 63-65

CPCC: 60 hours