

**Academic Council
Minutes 11/15/2013**

Christopher Aubrie	CSL Student Representative
Adolphus Belk	Arts and Sciences
Judy Britt	Education
Janice Chism	Arts and Sciences
Tomoko Deguchi	Visual & Performing Arts
Marguerite Doman	Business Administration
Laura Glasscock	Arts and Sciences
Lisa Harris	Education
Jennifer Jordan	Education
Jo Koster, Chair	Arts and Sciences
Trent Kull	Arts and Sciences
Willis Lewis	Business Administration
Marge Moody	Visual & Performing Arts
Ron Parks	Visual & Performing Arts
Spiro Shetuni	Dacus Library
Will Thacker	Business Administration
Brad Tripp	Arts and Sciences
Ginger Williams	Arts and Sciences
Gina Jones, Secretary	Registrar

Guests: John Bird, Adria Belk, Karen Kedrowski, Gay Randolph, Margaret Williamson, and David Wohl

I. Welcome

Jo Koster

Dr. Koster called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Jo Koster

Approved via email.

III. Report from the Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Debra Boyd

Dr. Boyd reminded everyone that we do have exams and exam periods should be used. The period counts towards our seat time. Faculty are expected to provide an appropriate culminating experience for students. She encouraged everyone to encourage their colleagues to follow those guidelines.

Dr. Boyd talked about what is going on with the Vision process with President. Two forums have already taken place and there is another next week. It is important to participate in these conversations. This is an opportunity to talk about what is important. She has learned there are things we need to work on, such as retention and infrastructure. She emphasized that their voices need to be heard as priorities are established. The other piece of that is that she has learned that we are doing some things that have been on these lists. We need to improve communication so that people are aware. There seems to be no one place that people can go to get this information. She suggested an Intranet. Anything that gets used too often gets overlooked. Any suggestions would be helpful. Dr. Adolphus Belk suggested Wingspan as that is where all faculty have to go.

Dr. Wohl said web and email are not the way to advertise any more. The faculty/staff link on the homepage needs to be revamped.

Ms. Moody asked about prioritization, maybe put in categories. Dr. Boyd is open to trying whatever will work. Dr. Parks suggested a portal for such information. Dr. Belk said he gets too much email and would like to see us use something currently under-utilized. Dr. Boyd agreed we definitely need a useful tool for communication--multiple paths instead of a single path.

IV. Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum

Will Thacker

CUC Actions (for Academic Council's Information Only):

CUC met electronically during the week of 11/1-11/7 to evaluate requests submitted by Friday 11/1/2013.

The following request was approved:

Subject	Course	Title	Department	Action
SPMA	101	Introduction to Sport Management	PESH	MODIFY COURSE: Remove Prerequisite of "SPMA Majors or by permission of instructor"; Add Methods of Evaluation and Goals for the Course

Because of a problem with programming in the Curriculum Application System, a number of actions reached CUC after the cutoff for the agenda and will be reviewed at CUC's next meeting on Feb. 21, 2014.

Dr. Jordan asked if the process could be shortened. Dr. Koster explained that this had been revisited four years ago and the process was shortened. The process can take six weeks if timed correctly, which is shorter than it used to be. Dr. Chism pointed out that there are courses that affect other programs that departments need to be alerted about that isn't being done until late in the process.

Ms. Jones indicated that there is catalog/curriculum management software that would handle this kind of thing.

College assemblies often see things that no committee prior catches. There are checks and balances. Dr. Koster saw in CUC that curriculum needs good review. She reminded everyone that we will have a lot of curriculum to review in February, and we have an additional meeting scheduled, so she asked that we make sure keep that date is kept available.

V. General Education Curriculum Committee

Brad Tripp

All courses were approved; approval of Faculty Conference required.

DEPT	NUMBER	CATEGORY
INAS	425	Global
PLSC	390	Global
PLSC	390H	Global
PHIL	350	Humanities & Arts
PHIL	450	Humanities & Arts

PLSC	510	Humanities & Arts
PLSC	510h	Humanities & Arts
RELG	317	Humanities & Arts
PHIL	371	LLS
ELEM	362	Oral
LGST	300	Soc Sciences

Recertified Courses (for information only)

DEPT	NUMBER	CATEGORY
ANTH	201	Global
ANTH	203	Global
EDCI	210	Global
ENGL	208	Global
ENGL	224X	Global
GEOG	201	Global
PLSC	205	Global
PLSC	205H	Global
PLSC	207	Global
PLSC	207H	Global
THRT	210	Humanities & Arts
PHIL	230	Humanities & Arts
ARTS	281	LLS
MATH	201	LLS
MATH	202	LLS
MATH	202H	LLS
MATH	261	LLS
MATH	291	LLS
MATH	292	LLS
MATH	294	LLS
MATH	299	LLS
PHIL	220	LLS
VCOM	262	LLS
PLSC	260	Oral
SPCH	201	Oral
SPCH	203	Oral
VCOM	262	Tech

VI. Report from the CSL

Chris Aubrie

Mr. Aubrie Chris updated us on the tobacco-free campus issue. He has met with wellness coordinator and Tobacco-Free York County Coalition. The CSL is putting together a student survey. The goal is to get 25% of students to respond.

CSL sponsored a pep rally the Friday of homecoming.

Mr. Aubrie mentioned that the student allocation fund still has \$31000 to allocate. If you are a faculty-sponsor of a student group, encourage groups to apply for funds.

CSL is sponsoring garnet/gold gala in February. Please encourage students to attend.

They sponsored a voter education fair last Wednesday to educate students.

CSL also sponsored a BYOC campaign in which students were encouraged to use sustainable cups as a refill option rather than paper. There were 250 distributed.

Student Activities and CSL are having a LIFT conference on leadership on February 22.

Students have come to him regarding lights on campus. He talked with chief Zebedis and a survey has been done by engineers to see what areas are dark. They will give an estimate on how to improve.

VII. Old Business

Jo Koster

A. Academic Integrity

The discussion on Academic Integrity is proceeding at Winthrop speed. Dr. Koster has some names and has asked some deans for nominees. In the next week, she will work on getting a charge to the group.

B. Minors

Ms. Jones asked if there had been any discussion within the departments about minors and the impact double-dipping would have if degrees other than the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Social Work. There had been none. Dr. Koster asked Ms. Jones to send information to chairs about how minors are affected.

VIII. New Business: Proposal from the Grade Group to Change the S/U Declaration Date

Rationale for Extending the S/U Deadline for Full Semester Courses

Current Policy

Undergraduate students may elect to receive a satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grade on a total of four courses throughout their entire undergraduate curriculum, and are limited to electing no more than one S/U course per semester. (All summer sessions together are considered one semester.) A satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade, recorded as S or U, will not be counted in computing the student's grade-point average; however, credit will only be given for courses for which an S grade is earned. The purpose of this option is to allow the student an opportunity to explore areas of interest outside the major and outside required courses without jeopardizing the grade-point average. Students are discouraged from choosing the S/U option for required courses or for courses in the major. Students who are unclear about the appropriate application of the S/U option should consult their advisers.

The four-course limit regarding the S/U option does not include those courses which are offered only on an S/U basis. A student must elect to utilize the S/U option within the first two weeks of a semester. A student may subsequently rescind the election of the S/U option by the course withdrawal deadline (60% of the instructional days in the semester for full-semester classes). A rescinded S/U will still count toward the maximum of four allowed.

Proposal From the Grade Group

The S/U option initially was offered to encourage students to enroll in classes which were not required, but were of interest to a student. Some students still choose to do so, but many students do not have the option to take such classes because of the degree requirements within their majors. Most select S/U to protect their grade point average in courses they think they may not do well in. We think students should be able to select the option after receiving grades on tests or papers.

Currently, the S/U deadline is at the end of only two weeks of classes. Most courses do not provide any academic assessment to students within the first two weeks of classes. Therefore, the GRADE group proposes that this deadline be extended to five weeks after the start of classes. By this time, most faculty members have provided some academic feedback to their classes.

Extending the deadline three more weeks into the semester allows students to have a more realistic view of their academic performance in a class and therefore make a more informed decision regarding whether or not to choose the S/U option.

Margaret Williamson indicated that the GRADE Group had discussed this several times. While the history of S/U began with a way for students to explore courses outside their majors and minor, it has evolved into saving the GPA. There is currently a two-week window to choose S/U, and this is not enough time for faculty feedback.

Ms. Jones indicated that one deadline would be better for record-keeping, that students are confused with all the deadlines.

There was discussion regarding mid-term grades.

Dr. Chism asked how that impacts faculty. They don't know often until grading that a student has selected the S/U.

Dr. Thacker spoke of other colleges policies and they are similar in our philosophies. He doesn't like the idea of it now protecting grades.

Ms. Moody is on the Petitions Committee and commented on a memo from Dr. Kiblinger. The committee is supportive of the proposal as they see a lot of petitions to drop the S/U.

Dr. Tripp said we are already there (protecting grades) with the purpose of retention.

Dr. Thacker commented that it's intention versus how it's been used. He suggested that the S/U not be used in the major, minor, gen ed.

Dr. Koster noted that the original policy was before the LIFE scholarships and programs which have no electives.

Dr. Parks indicated that if BME students could only take something outside their program, they wouldn't have any electives.

Dr. Adolphus Belk asked going through, will it help our students? There will always be someone gaming the system. Are we adopting an approach to help them stay here and finish?

Dr. Bird stated there were two conversations: if students need to protect their gpa or just taking a chance on a class—either way, they need a longer amount of time to make the decision.

Dr. Chism said that students sometimes ask if they should S/U her upper level BIOL class. She can't answer that after two weeks.

Mr. Aubrie asked if there was an opposition to extending the deadline.

Dr. Lewis indicated he was opposed.

Dr. Deguchi clarified the current rescission policy.

Ms. Moody made a motion that the deadline extending the date to select the S/U be the same as the rescission.

Dr. Adolphus Belk seconded.

There were two nays.

The second proposal was to change the purpose of the S/U to strike the purpose.

Discussion ensued. Maybe the purpose needs to stay, but we know that students use it for other purposes, and that is ok.

Dr. Kedrowski asked if guidance from AC was needed to the Petitions Committee?

Ms. Moody indicated no, not so much guidance. It recognizes that times have changed, and there is a revision in terms of today's student challenges. The current policy is ok; it's what's missing that's a problem. She asked if she could take this back to the Petitions Committee and put forth a revised policy. Dr. Koster agreed.

Dr. Thacker asked about the rescission section of the policy. There was discussion about penalizing the student for selecting the S/U early. Ms. Jones indicated that there would be no rescission date if the selection date was the same day as the withdrawal. Students would keep their number of S/U's intact.

Another topic from the Petitions Committee was regarding courses being removed from General Education and how this impacts students.

Why do courses change?

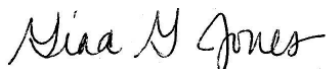
Dr. Tripp indicated some departments don't want to go through the recertification process. The Faculty put this on themselves as we said we would recertify the courses every 5 years for SACS.

IX. Announcements

Dr. Kedrowski announced that the BA in Individualized Studies has been approved by SACS and we can now publicize.

Dr. Koster stated that the next meeting is January 24 and is not optional. The Gen Ed Taskforce will be giving a report. February 28 is the next regular meeting and it will be curriculum-heavy.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gina Jones, Secretary

