



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Campus Commons 2201
February 7, 2023 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Minutes

Present: Beyers, Casey, Couch, Geisendorfer, Holman, Houston, Matchett, McClatchey, Muller
(Chair), Smith, Steele

Guests: Bebee, Records

Present via Zoom: Azarello, Beals, Creasy, Wood

Absent: Kraver, Staton

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:32pm.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (12/6/2022)

The minutes were approved without objection.

Announcements

Reports

- Chair's Report (Muller):
 - Tara Wood will be joining LAC meetings via Zoom whenever possible and working with WCWL CCC.
 - Suzette Youngs is no longer the UGC rep on LAC; there is currently no UGC rep on LAC.
 - AVP added a brief note on UGC current projects including beginning to discuss required minimum use of Canvas, which is relevant to LAC direct assessment procedures.
 - Thank you to Tom Smith, LAC Vice Chair, for taking meeting minutes last semester.
- Jen Mayer, UNC Libraries'-LAC project lead will join the February 21st 2023 LAC meeting.
- Syllabi submitted for Indirect Assessment must meet specific criteria.
 - 5-year cycle – Every course in LAC is assessed once every 5 years.
 - 2-year cycle – The review cycle for each individual course is every 2 years. Following year 1 review, if a syllabus needs work, LAC makes specific suggestions in a written memo.
 - We are in Year 2 of Indirect Assessment Syllabi; each CCC has its own SharePoint subfolder.



- CCC review process is almost the same as LAC course approval process.
- CCC Chairs compose a written and oral report; then Nina generates a memo letter.
- Committee reviewed Spring 2023 Indirect Assessment reporting chart for year 2 and course re-review.
- Committee Chairs in their report should follow up on the specific LAC recommendations from the first-year findings.
- Re-review syllabi are looking better than they did in the initial review.
- It was mentioned that several instructors will teach one course using different syllabi, but Chair Muller said all syllabi for a course must meet criteria.
- A goal of conducting assessments is to ensure our compliance with State standards for GT Pathways courses.
- We need to continue to clarify LAC role at the end of syllabus review-indirect assessment, especially after 2 years of non-compliance. Will be a part of on-going discussion this review cycle.
- In process, this year AVP in conjunction with LAC is developing a protocol where newly admitted courses into the Curriculum will get an introduction letter to the LAC and assessment process.

Standing Reports

- GE Council (Matchett):
 - Approved 4 credit GT-CO1 course as a special case for targeted audience at UCCS. 3 credits is the expectation for the level 1 writing course.
 - Scores of 3 /4/5 on AP African American Studies approved for gt-SS3 (SBS) credit (will be AFX 1XX at UNC)
 - CSU Pueblo 200 Level French and German courses removed from GT Pathways due to two year rule.
 - SB22-192 Stackable Credentials implementation:
 - workgroup forming
 - Interesting conversation about certificates.
 - Metro moving to eliminate minors in favor of micro-credentials
 - CU Boulder faculty overwhelmingly favor minors over certificates on grounds that grad schools don't know what certificates are/mean
 - New GT Pathways courses
 - CU-Denver: GT-SS2: GEOG 2202 Hazards to Disaster: Perception and Management (3)
 - CCCS: GT-AH3: PHI 141/1041 Old Testament (3)
- AVP of Undergraduate Studies (Matchett):
 - ASLS name change to Communications, Sciences and Disorders (CSD). ASLS now CSD 160 in LAC.
 - Reminder that LAC Bylaws are approved by Faculty Senate and posted publicly on LAC website:
 - Bylaws should also be updated with new CCC name: Category Curriculum Committee.
 - Request for earlier dissemination of athletic Summerbridge RFP to facilitate earlier planning among team.
 - Last year sent in April but requesting as soon as possible (by Spring break).
 - Course is offered in Summer Session II (145 hours).



- Procedure was to send to Deans and relevant Unit Leaders; HRS for Provost handles submissions; small committee (Library Area Head, LAC Chair and SAASC) to review and recommend.
- AVP meeting with Faculty Senate leadership to clarify understanding of current LAC practices related to LAC-GtP alignment and ramifications.
- Curriculum Category Committee Reports
 - Written Communication & World Languages (Holman): No report.
 - History, Literature, & Humanities (Smith): No report.
 - Philosophy & the Arts (Casey): No report.
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences (Beals): No report.
 - Mathematics & Natural Sciences (Steele): No report.
 - International & Multicultural Studies (Kraver): Finished IS/MS Assessment Rubrics, uploaded into Canvas.
- Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - Assessment & Curriculum (Muller)
 - Update from Director of Assessment (Beebe): NHS meetings brought up good questions, thank you Kathie!
 - Outreach & Communication (Kraver)

Unfinished Business

- Board Policy Updates – three updates to board policy
 - Review Revised Language – LAC Chair edits 1-23
 - Section 23107(2)(b), remove the sentence: “*The membership consists of voting and ex-officio members...*”
 - Section 23107(2)(b)(1) could be clarified, also add bullet points.
 - Section 23107(2)©(II) Powers and Duties of the LAC: The sentence: “*To develop and maintain the data*” could be changed to “*review and consider data.*”
 - Section 23107(2)©(V): The sentence: “*To make an annual report on the status of the Curriculum to the AVP of UG studies*” could be omitted entirely.
 - Chair will revise document for further discussion at upcoming meeting.

New Business

- Student Requests

DISCUSSION: Student Exception Request from Carlyon Webster - Recommend deny

- Online student was mis-advised, advisor assumed 4 credit class included a lab class, even though student has 7 credits in this area has not completed a lab course. Direct precedent with same situation exists in LAC records. In previous case, in accordance with state requirements LAC denied exception.
- Since, this is the second incident on record with this course AVP will follow-up and request an alert be put on the class syllabus stating this a 4-credit science course that does not contain a lab.

MOTION: It is moved to deny Carolyn Webster’s exception request. Casey first, Beals seconds.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote.

- Direct Assessment – LAC Process

DISCUSSION: 6 Year Category Rotation – Needed for policy document

- Previously determined would rotate through by Category not Competency
 - Following Pilot with History in Spring 2023, History will be last in the rotation. Have begun working NPS for upcoming academic year, Written Communication and Math



both have done assessment work within their programs.

- Proposed Category Rotation:
 - Natural and Physical Sciences (AY 23-24)
 - Written Communication (AY 24-25)
 - Math (AY 25-26)
 - Arts & Humanities (AY 26-27)
 - Social and Behavioral Sciences (AY 27-28)
 - History (AY 28-29)

MOTION: It is moved to accept the above direct assessment rotation. Beals first, Geisendorfer seconds.

VOTE: Voted unanimously by voice vote.

DISCUSSION: What data will LAC review each year – Needed for policy document

- Currently have DA, NSSC Survey, DFW, and IA data listed in policy
 - Need to compile a summary of IA findings each year.
 - Do we want to do student indirect assessment in a survey to be completed as part of the DA assessment process in rotation?

Beebe noted that 2021 NSSE data does not necessarily reflect LAC courses; value may be in the long term, looking at trends.

- Students' response to high-impact practices such as independent research, etc. Otherwise, very difficult to pull specific data in relation to LAC courses specifically.
- Anonymous student survey link (Blackboard at prior institution) with mixed open-ended questions very helpful, good engagement (30% – 40%) began in 20% range and grew over time.
- Good assessment practice is to listen to the student voice in deliberations and assessment process.
- Student perspective along with numerical and other direct assessment data helps guide next steps.

MOTION: It is moved that the LAC will remove the annual examination of NSSE data and work to build and include student survey instead. Casey first, Smith seconds.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote.

Comments for the Good of the Order: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02pm.