

Liberal Arts Council Meeting  
Campus Commons 2201  
March 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:00p.m.  
Minutes

Present: L. Amor, C. Bebee, B. Casey, C. Couch, R. Dineen, Y. Brownlee, M. Fryer, N. Geisendorfer, M. Harris, N. Matchett, S. Mannello, M. McKeown-Kelley, C. McMahan, H. Muller, J. Smith, A. Steele  
Zoom: T. Smith  
Absent: M. Berg  
Guest: J. Elkins

Call to Order 3:37pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objection

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting ([02/18/25](#)) approved without objection

Reports

- [Chair's Report](#) (Muller) –
  - Spring 2025 Meeting Schedule
    - ISR begin 4/1 PTC and HLH CCCs
  - Spring 2025
    - Indirect Syllabus Review
      - Awaiting Re and Final Review Syllabi from BOMs
    - Indirect Assessment Student Survey
      - IS/MS Questions Added - Full Survey Complete
    - AY 23-24 Direct Assessment Follow-Up
      - Chad and Heidi met with CHEM/BREW
    - Update Bylaws
      - Received from Codification 3/3/2025
    - General Education Credential
      - Today's agenda
    - Operationalize CO2/CO3 clarification
      - Revised Memo on Today's Agenda
  - GE Council (Matchett)
    - CDHE has hired a new Senior Director of Academic Pathways
  - AVP of Undergraduate Studies (Matchett)
    - Summerbridge appointment process is proceeding
    - It's CCC appointment time. Three tasks for CCC Chairs by next meeting.
      - Please ask members whose terms end Spring 25 whether they are willing to reup and let me know
      - If you have ideas about filling vacancies, or any other feedback for me about appointments, please send that too.
      - From your continuing membership, remember to appoint a CCC chair by the end of April. Chairs must be able to attend LACouncil meetings. Since it should be a continuing member you can do this now.
      - CCC Appointments [Working Document](#)
  - Curriculum Category Committee Reports
    - Written Communication & World Languages (Wood) – No report

- History, Literature & Humanities (Smith) – No report
- Philosophy & the Arts (Casey) – No report. Splitting up the review of 15 syllabi among CCC
- Social & Behavioral Sciences (McMahan) – Has all ISR syllabi
- Mathematics & Natural Sciences (Steele) – OCEAN 110 has not been taught since Fall 2023, and that syllabus lacks criteria. They have a Fall 2025 syllabus, which will be reviewed. Steele will send the Fall 2025 syllabus to Margaret.
- International & Multicultural Studies (Muller) – Finished questions for the Indirect Assessment. CCC met to set a plan for ISR.
- Ad Hoc Committee Reports
  - Assessment & Curriculum (Muller)
    - Report from Director of Assessment (Beebe)
      - DA Follow-Up Meeting with [CHEM/BREW](#)
      - Muller and Beebe met with CHEM
        - They did not have any data due to turnover
        - Key Takeaway from the meeting was the usefulness of the syllabus mapping project we have been doing. Their courses are well mapped which should allow them to redo direct assessment AY 25-26
  - Outreach & Communications (chair TBD)

### Unfinished Business

- Indirect Assessment [Student Survey](#) (complete draft sent to Sonia for testing)
- Follow-Up for Academic Units with Missing Direct Assessment Data (continuing)
- LAW2/CO2-LAW3/CO3 clarification operationalization (Spring)
- Mapping on Course Syllabi (ongoing)

### New Business

- UNC General Education Foundational Skills Credential
  - CDHE Foundational Skills [Website URL](#)
  - UNC Foundational Skills Credential [Talking Points](#)
  - There is some general reluctance to the rationale provided for utility.
  - Could be awarded as a transcript recognition maybe associated with badging.
  - BC – how likely would it be to get a badging tool?
    - NJM: APC has charged a micro-credentials committee to make recommendations about the process.
    - The idea is to have a policy and strategy in place before purchasing the badging tools, which could be in Fall 2027.
    - It currently seems likely most badges would have a fee. Fee not mandatory for all students only if they want the badge.
  - BC – is there a way to have an application process?
    - Registrar: There could be, based on procedures established the CORE initiative
      - They have systems that are able to run internal checks for eligibility
  - Registrar: There is a chance several students would qualify historically similar to CORE.
    - How far back in time do we want to go?
      - Depending on timeframe several hundred students would qualify.
      - Students who met the 31-credit requirement but walked away from UNC would qualify.
        - This could be seen as a re-recruitment tool.

- The registrar has systems in place where they can mirror the CORE project just need to determine how far back to go
- Moving forward this could be an “auto-award” for those that are qualified
  - They will need about a year lead time with a realistic start time of Spring 2026
- Chair: What does the committee think about going back a few years?
  - If it’s not too much work, it may work to mirror CORE
  - For historical aspect registrar would ask the students “if this were something they want?”
- Another option is to award as a certificate
  - There is no conversation on certificates larger than 12 to 18 credits which might make pushing in that direction difficult.
- Bebee consulted several sources
  - He started with literature, which is developing and interesting.
  - His second approach used research aspect of ChatGPT4.0
  - Lastly, he spoke with people who do offer certificates similar to this
    - Several were in the community college system in the Midwest
    - Some institutions will be sending him their data
- Research is sparse and hard to find good data.
  - However, intermediate awards do promote student success and a morale booster. It signals to employers that these students can do college work
  - There are a number of communication factors that when marketed correctly employers would be more likely to hire.
  - Students with certificates are more likely to go back to finish their degree.
- There is no national data, but it is very common in the community college system.
- Muller would like to bring a recommendation to Academic Policies Committee (APC) since this conversation may be happening in APC soon
  - The question of setting residency requirements was raised, since high school students are coming in with several credits from several places.
  - There were concerns about the term “interim”, since the registrar uses specific notation.
- MOTION: Casey motions that the LAC endorses a transcript notation of a foundational skills credential with a letter that can be supplemented by a badging system, seconded by Harris.
- VOTE: Approved unanimously
- The letter will highlight the skills and will serve as an informative document that could be added to the LAC website
  - This would be a forward-facing part of the website.
  - Idea is to move students away from thinking these requirements are just checking required boxes and be excited to gain these skills
- NJM: With the question of going back in time, feedback will be needed from Pete Lein
  - The council is open to going back a few years
  - The registrar stated that it would be coding logic and something they can do
- Discussion of Three Different Criteria Sets for Award – Talking Points
  - Suggested Award Criteria aligns with State gtP Competencies:
  - Anything that fulfills gt pathway would count – including dual enrollment
  - Current policy reads that a student can fulfill a credential we offer with transfer credits as long as they enroll as a UNC students
    - Gtp credits only transfer with a C or higher

- MOTION: Casey motions that the UNC foundational skills credentials criteria be as proposed with including IS/MS classes or SBS 2/3 courses, seconded by Nancy G.
- VOTE: approved unanimously
- Nancy M. will revise the document with an update on FAQs and credits. Once finalized she will share with APC and have it available in a Teams folder.
- Moving forward:
  - The structure of the letter will need to be determined.
  - The website will need to be updated.
  - Jordan Smith has volunteered to join the outreach & communication committee.
- CO2-CO3 Clarification Operationalization [Memo](#)
  - The LAC will provide the resources for the transitions to a LAW3
    - Tara Wood will be the main contact.
  - Casey stated that faculty in PVA think students won't take a PVA writing course if it is LAW3.
    - Brownlee shared that English requires the ENG LAW3 writing course in one of their majors.
  - How do we announce?
    - A general announcement can be made through the Academic Affairs newsletter but may want to hold off until we get closer to the actual transition.
    - We will need to see the timeline and an announcement should be made in the Fall.
      - Memos can be sent out this spring.
    - Who do we contact for the memos?
      - Unit leads which in this case are A-Deans.
    - Can it be added to the new website roll out?
      - Yes, it will be part of the website
      - Having it on the website might be the first-place students look.
    - A note will be added in in the email for the contributions memo to be sent out during spring 2025 to all units with LAC courses.
  - The current timeline from the fall motion will remain unchanged for now.
    - The goal was to provide a broad timeline.
    - Members may want to discuss it further with their units.
      - Harris has already had some conversations in MCB.
    - Some units may prefer to complete it earlier.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment 5:01pm