



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Gunter 1530
April 18, 2023 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Minutes

Present: Casey, Couch, Holman, Kraver, Matchett, McClatchey, Muller (Chair), Smith, Steele
Present via Zoom: Azarello, Beals, Bebee, Geisendorfer, Houston, Records, Staton
Absent: Beyers, Creasy, Wood

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:31pm.

Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (4/4/2023)

Approved without objection.

Announcements: None.

Reports

- Chair's Report (Muller)
 - Explore OER, free and low-cost (under \$20) materials for LAC courses, direct your inquiries to Heidi or Jen Mayer at UL. CCC Chairs to send application link email to unit leads and ask them to distribute to LAC faculty. May 6 application deadline.
 - Still working on our communications plan; memos to go out in May. Chair will keep council members updated by email as timeline and memos are finalized.
 - LAC 22-23 accomplishments reviewed; Heidi to send to Faculty Senate Chair.
 - LAC 23-24 goals and objectives overviewed.
 - Indirect Assessment Follow-Up: Exemplar syllabi identified as LAC website examples.
- Standing Reports
 - GE Council (Matchett):
 - First half was wrap up/review of recommendations from the SHEEO project (multi state initiative on improving transferability). No concrete outcomes at moment but push is for “removing obstacles” to transfer to help student attain degrees.
 - Faculty Zoom to determine whether AP African American Studies course should be in History rather than Social Sciences on April 21st (aligns more closely with History) and would transfer as such to UNCO LAC.
 - UNC faculty invited to meeting of All Statewide Faculty on April 21st, then will go back to Council for final recommendations.
 - Takeaways from Stackable Credentials Faculty to Faculty last Friday.



- CCHE working on language explicitly allowing 4 year institutions to award “credentials smaller than a degree”
- Ideally, obtaining a stackable/micro-credential could qualify students for employment opportunity and/or articulate directly into a larger credential.
 - Example given from Metro State College which offers a non-credit credential (teaser) that qualifies students to sit/pass a test which is considered prior learning towards a certificate.
 - We could offer stackable/micro-credential as a mini-certificate and then look at investing in tools like CREDLY or BADGR.
 - Grant funds for stackable/micro-credentials are available by the State (available to four-year institutions as well).
- Immediately qualifies the student for an employment opportunity/salary range not possible without that credential.
- Would articulate directly to a larger credential (i.e., a certificate or degree).
- AVP of Undergraduate Studies (Matchett):
 - Last call for guidance on staffing CCCs (please include in your reports).
- Core Curriculum Committee Reports
 - Written Communication & World Languages (Holman): No report.
 - History, Literature, & Humanities (Smith): We have something in New Business.
 - Philosophy & the Arts (Casey): No report.
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences (Beals): No report.
 - Mathematics & Natural Sciences (Steele): We have something in New Business.
 - International & Multicultural Studies (Kraver): We have something in New Business.
- Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - Assessment & Curriculum (Muller)
 - Sub-Committee Meeting Report – Revised Student Survey Questions to focus on Category Competencies: MCB expressed openness to including LAC questions in course evaluations.
 - Update from Director of Assessment (Beebe): A few academic units have reached out about LAC assessment and Canvas LMS, Chad will meet with units in spring/summer and have workshop contract start week.
 - Outreach & Communication (Kraver): We still need help with our website.

Unfinished Business

- Bylaws, Acceptance Memos, Website, Tabled Pending Recommend Brought to Council
- Direct Assessment – Student Survey

New Business

- Student Requests
 - Heather Blake – Recommend Denial – based on MNS CCC review of transfer course. Couch question about varying transfer across institutions, Matchett developing language to clearly lay-out and make publicly available the entirety of the automatic transfer process, current course does not meet automatic transfer and therefore needs to be reviewed at UNCO by relevant CCC and approved by full council. MOTION TO DENY - McClatchey firsts, Casey seconds. The motion passes.
 - Alexandra Atkins – Recommend Approval – has taken two LAW2 courses, catalogue change, no LAW 3 in initial catalogue, 2nd course required for major, with courses taken



student has had general and discipline specific writing experiences
MOTION TO APPROVE – Casey firsts, Kraver seconds. The motion passes.

- Isaac Robinson – Recommend Approval – based on PTA CCC review of transfer course description, Couch question about exemption for future transfers of same course – would require a full audit of syllabus by PTA CCC and full council.
- MOTION TO APPROVE – Casey firsts, Kraver seconds. The motion passes.
- McKenzie Craig – Recommend Denial – AFS 340 not LAC, by precedent no exception
MOTION TO DENY - Casey firsts, Kraver seconds. The motion passes.
Olivia Lansden – Recommend Denial – AFS 340 not LAC, by precedent no exception
MOTION TO DENY – Casey firsts, Kraver seconds. The motion passes.

- Indirect Assessment Report – Math and Natural Sciences: Steele is still waiting for a response on a set of courses that need to update outdated language to current requirements and/or need to add course mapping. A committee member is working with faculty to get syllabi to meet current LAC criteria.

MOTION: There is a motion to accept the report with a friendly amendment that all recommendations highlighted in yellow on the report, where syllabi are still needing updates from Area 6 language or mapping needs to be included, be identified as needing to be re-reviewed in 23-24 indirect assessment. McClatchy firsts, Smith seconds.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote. The motion passes.

- Revisit Indirect Assessment Report – History, Literature and Humanities: Smith reviewed AY 22-23 Round 1 findings; two out of nine syllabi meet LAC requirements.

MOTION: There is a motion to accept the full HLH report. Casey firsts, Kraver seconds.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote. The motion passes.

- Indirect Assessment Report – International Studies/Multicultural Studies: Kraver reviewed, that some syllabi are still using Area 7 and Area 8 language rather than new IS/MS designation language and revised SLOs, and almost all syllabi are missing course mapping. ELIT 290 proposed as MS exemplar, PSCI 110 as IS exemplar and ENG 205 and 206 as IS examples of how to integrate IS/MS three column chart into a syllabus.

MOTION: The motion is to accept IS/MS indirect assessment report findings. Casey firsts, Kraver seconds.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote. The motion passes.

- Vote for 23-24 LAC Chair and Vice-Chair

MOTION: There is a motion to approve the final slate of nominees; Muller as 23-24 Chair and Wood as 23-24 Vice-Chair.

VOTE: Approved unanimously by voice vote. The motion passes.

Comments for the Good of the Order

Chair Muller would like to thank Rebecca Beals and Don Holman as CCC chairs for their contributions this year, Caterina Azzarello as student senate representative and the rest of the members of the assessment sub-committee; Jeri Kraver, Mary Houston, Nancy Geisendorfer, Chad Bebee, Kathie Records, and Tara Wood! A special Thank You and gift to Jeri Kraver for all her work with the LAC, especially on the IS/MS designations, during her tenure at UNCO.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.