



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Remote Meeting - Teams
March 23, 2021 3:30-5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Present: Baird, Blair, Byrnes, Geisendorfer, Harraf, Heiny, Johnson, Kraver, Leatherman, Matchett, Muller, Smith, Wood, Yamprai

Absent: Beals, Franklin, Markowski, Urbach

Guests: Beyers, Clavir

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 (03/02/2021)

Approved without objection.

Announcements

- **Chair/Vice Chair nominations**
 - Nominations are open; self-nominations are welcome.
 - Officer elections will occur at the 4/6 meeting.

- **LAC-specific outcomes**
 - Matchett - We recommend eliminating additional outcomes outside of the State expectations.
 - With an increasing number of students matriculating at UNC with significant portions of their LAC requirements met through transfer courses or fully met through the completion of AA/AS degrees, it may not make sense to keep additional LAC-specific outcomes.
 - Some of the extra requirements are residuals of past general education requirements.
 - Example of Critical Thinking redundancy: two different Critical Thinking SLOs, one from the State, one LAC-specific
 - CCC Chairs Baird, Beals, and Smith are asked to have conversations with their CCCs and report at the next Council meeting whether the extra requirements can be removed.
 - If CCCs recommend that any of the extra requirements should be kept, please provide rationale.

Reports

- **Chair's Report (Wood)**
 - The webinar "Advising in the new LAC" from March 9th is available online; we are planning to hold another one May 5th.



- Bylaws review – Today we are looking at Articles I-V.
- Assessment plan – Today we are discussing the indirect assessment component: syllabi review for compliance.
- **Standing Reports**
 - *GE Council* (Matchett) – GE Council had no objections to UNC’s submitted courses. There was debate in relation to STAAs about how to meaningfully describe KSAs (knowledge, skills, and abilities) developed by students who complete degrees. The new round of faculty-to-faculty conferences will likely focus on KSAs. There is also the question of whether it will continue to be permitted to make SAT/ACT optional, which was allowed in COVID time. Test optional legislation may be coming.
 - Wood noted impacts to placement protocol, pre-requisites, etc. if SAT/ACT becomes permanently optional.
 - *AVP of Undergraduate Studies* (Matchett) – For programs starting to think about curriculum modifications, please be mindful of STAAs. Students who have completed their two-year degrees through a State-wide Articulation Agreement must be able to graduate from their four-year program in an additional two years/sixty hours. The Council is charged with maintaining data on the Curriculum, and the most effective way to do that (with the increase data staffing at the University) is to make recommendations as to what data needs to be collected and why. CCCs will need to elect their Chairs for next year. Matchett has begun reaching out to units regarding CCC appointments/re-appointments.
 - *Core Curriculum Committee Reports*
 - **Language and Mathematics** (Wood) - No Report.
 - **History, Literature, and Humanities** (Smith) – No Report.
 - **Philosophy and the Arts** (Yamprai) – No Report.
 - **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (Beals) – No Report.
 - **Physical and Life Sciences** (Baird) – Baird will be on sabbatical next year, so another CCC member will need to serve as CCC Chair next year. We submitted the form to deactivate ESCI 265, but it came to the curriculum committee. Heiny will help move it along in the workflow.
 - **International and Multicultural Studies** (Kraver) – We have been talking about MS SLOs, synthesizing from a list cultivated from a variety of sources. We will follow the same process for IS SLOs. We want to have a draft for MS and maybe IS available before Fall.
 - *Ad Hoc Committee Reports*
 - **Assessment and Curriculum** (Wood) – No Report. See unfinished business.
 - **Outreach & Communication** (Kraver) – We are finishing edits to the video.

Unfinished Business

- **Assessment planning**
 - Indirect assessment of continued compliance with LAC criteria
 - Involves re-reviewing syllabi in a five-year cycle: one fourth of all LAC courses reviewed in each of the first four years, with the fifth year as a catch-up year
 - Would we prefer a randomized sampling each year or a more strategic grouping?
 - The CCC Chairs will work with their CCCs to divide their courses into a four-year review cycle and report at the next Council meeting.
 - We will be reviewing actual teaching syllabi; the expectation is that the teaching syllabus continues to conform beyond what is initially approved by the Council.
 - Only one syllabus needs to be pulled; we will not require the syllabi of every course



section.

- Cross-listed courses will be reviewed once; the syllabus is the same across the prefixes.
 - Make sure cross-listed courses are treated appropriately in the four-year cycle.
- Develop a communication plan to notify units.
 - If we roll out the indirect assessment plan for AY 21/22, we will notify units in Fall 2021 which courses will be subject to review in Spring 2022.
- **Bylaws revision**
 - Wood presented the latest bylaws draft. Articles I-V are ready for a vote; Article VI is still in progress.

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to approve the Articles I-V of the LAC bylaws as presented.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

New Business

- **Liberal Arts Curriculum catalog narrative**

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to accept the catalog narrative revisions are presented.

- The committee discussed the language and agreed it is adequate.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **A&H Global SLOs**

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to remove the A&H Global SLOs.

DISCUSSION:

- The outcomes are un-assessable and are not meaningful in course design.
 - They are not tied to any given course but rather a set of outcomes that indicate what students should be able to do once they have completed the Arts & Humanities Curriculum.
- Yamprai and Smith agree with removing the section.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote, 2 abstentions.

Comments for the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Tara Wood
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary