



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Remote Meeting - Teams
April 6, 2021 3:30-5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Present: Baird, Blair, Byrnes, Geisendorfer, Franklin, Heiny, Johnson, Leatherman, Markowski, Matchett, Muller, Wood, Yamprai

Absent: Beals, Harraf, Kraver, Smith, Urbach

Guests: Byers, Clavir, Couch

Call to Order

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

Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (03/23/2021)

Approved without objection.

Announcements

- **Open Educational Resources**
 - OER grant opportunities: deadline extended to April 12. Contact Jen Mayer or Oscar Levin for more information.

Reports

- **Chair's Report** (Wood)
 - Bylaws – We are ready to vote on Articles VI-IX.
 - Assessment – Today we will discuss the direct assessment component.
- **Standing Reports**
 - *GE Council* (Matchett) - No Report.
 - *AVP of Undergraduate Studies* (Matchett) - CCC Chairs need to organize an election for next year's Chairs. Continuing CCC members are eligible to serve. Preferably, the CCC Chair must be able to attend regular LAC meetings. We are finalizing CCC appointments/re-appointments. The slate of CCC appointments will go to Senate for confirmation.
 - *Core Curriculum Committee Reports*
 - **Language and Mathematics** (Wood) – We submitted our chart for the 4-year indirect assessment timeline.
 - **History, Literature, and Humanities** (Smith) – We submitted our chart for the 4-year indirect assessment timeline. The CCC has no objection to removing History's LAC-specific SLOs.
 - **Philosophy and the Arts** (Yamprai) – We submitted our chart for the 4-year indirect assessment timeline. Should we include courses that are not offered anymore (e.g., MUS 204)?
 - Matchett will check on the status of MUS 204. We will keep MIND courses on



the list for now, too.

- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (Beals) – We submitted our chart for the 4-year indirect assessment timeline. The CCC has no recommendation yet regarding the LAC-specific SLOs in SBS.
- **Physical and Life Sciences** (Baird) – We will make our 4-year indirect assessment chart available before the next meeting. So far, no continuing CCC members wish to step forward as Chair. Regarding the Natural & Physical Sciences LAC-specific SLOs, the CCC voted to remove them. However, these outcomes were created intentionally to address areas lacking in the current GTP SLOs.
 - 1) Explain the fundamental concepts within the scientific field of study at the introductory level.
 - 2) Explain relevance of the science content to real world topics affecting humanity.
 - 3) Evaluate the quality of evidence in a scientific argument.We will discuss it further under new business.
- **International and Multicultural Studies** (Muller on behalf of Kraver) – MS and IS SLOs are still a work in progress.
- *Ad Hoc Committee Reports*
 - **Assessment and Curriculum** (Wood) – See unfinished business.
 - **Outreach & Communication** (Kraver) – No Report.
 - Couch shared a link to the [Advising and Registration Video Library](#) where a new [Liberal Arts Curriculum video](#) is now available. This video is targeted for admissions/recruitment and is separate from the more in-depth video project Kraver is completing.

Unfinished Business

- **Assessment planning**
 - Direct assessment: Is Course-Embedded Assessment (CEA) the right approach?
 - CEA involves methods of assessing student learning from within the classroom environment, with no additional component/labor for students or faculty.
 - Faculty must agree on the shared rubric and include a course-embedded assignment.
 - Role of Faculty
 - Identify one assignment (assessment) for CEA
 - Agree on shared rubric across sections of the same course
 - Implement CEA in delivery of the course
 - Report/share results
 - Revise/re-design course as appropriate
 - Role of CCCs
 - Identify target courses for implementation
 - Provide rubric and request faculty design the embedded assignment
 - Faculty can design their own rubric if so desired.
 - Facilitate sharing/reflection (e.g., via forums)
 - Wood asked the Council for their initial thoughts/feedback and whether the Council should move forward with pursuing direct assessment via CEA.

DISCUSSION:

- It may be difficult achieving faculty buy-in; consider how to address resistant faculty.
- Making it a requirement for LAC course submission is a way to make it mandatory.
- The rubrics should roll up to competencies.
- The Council is generally in favor, and some members still need time to think about it.



- **Bylaws revision**

- Wood presented the latest bylaws draft. The Council approved Articles I-V last time, and Articles VI-IX are ready for a vote.
- Discussion of Article VI: Procedures related to the Curriculum
 - How to balance the level of detail in the bylaws
 - It might be helpful to create a procedures handbook for LAC and CCC members.
 - Bylaws are meant to be used primarily by LAC and CCC members.
 - There also needs to be information for the faculty audience on the website to explain procedures and requirements.

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

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- As there are still procedures to be finalized, we will delay sending the bylaws to Codification until next semester.

New Business

- **LAC-specific outcomes**

- **History**

- The CCC has no objection to removing the LAC-specific outcomes.

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to remove the LAC-specific SLOs from History.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Social & Behavioral Sciences** – hold for the 4/20 meeting

- **Natural & Physical Sciences**

- The CCC voted to recommend removing the LAC-specific outcomes.
- Baird has some hesitancy about removing them as the outcomes were carefully and purposefully developed, but he accepts their removal with the ease of assessment in mind.

MOTION: Baird – It is moved to remove the LAC-specific SLOs from Natural & Physical Sciences.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote, 1 abstention.

- **LAC policy exemptions**

- **Acosta Gordillo** – request to waive LAC Area 7

- Student has a total of 47 LAC hours with all areas met except Area 7.
- Student is bilingual, and their program waived the SPAN 103 requirement for the major.

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to approve Acosta Gordillo's request to waive the Area 7 requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Knapp** – request to waive the LAC 40 total hours requirement

- Student has 38 total LAC hours and has met all areas.
 - Under the new Liberal Arts Curriculum, the student's LAC would already be complete.
- The student already has 91 total hours toward graduation and has a credit-intensive Teaching major.

MOTION: Muller – It is moved to approve Knapp's request to waive the 40-hour LAC requirement.



VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Schlieper** – request to waive the LAC 40 total hours requirement
 - Student has 39 total LAC hours and has met all areas.
 - Under the new Liberal Arts Curriculum, the student’s LAC would already be complete.
 - The student is set to graduate this semester.

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to approve Schlieper’s request to waive the 40-hour LAC requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Chair and Vice-Chair elections**
 - Wood has been nominated for Chair.
 - Muller self-nominates for Vice-Chair.
 - Without objection, the Council approves Tara Wood as Chair and Heidi Muller as Vice-Chair for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Comments for the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.

Tara Wood
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary