



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Remote Meeting - Teams
November 3, 2020 3:30-5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Present: Baird, Byrnes, Geisendorfer, Harraf, Heiny, Kraver, Markowski, Matchett, Muller, Smith, Wood

Absent: Beals, Blair, Johnson, Leatherman, Urbach, Yamprai

Guest: Couch

Call to Order

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

Approval of the Agenda

Approved with change in order: discuss LAC Appeals directly after Announcements.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (10/20/2020)

Approved without objection.

Announcements

- With several course proposals in the LAC CCC stage of the workflow, plan accordingly to have them ready for review at the next LAC meeting in two weeks.
- Although no official decision has been made by Academic Affairs at this time, it is possible that the Life of the Mind program may be discontinued.

Reports

- **Chair's Report** (Wood) – updates on goals of the year:
 - Revise Board Policy & bylaws
 - LAC's revisions to Board Policy passed at the 10/26 Senate meeting; a faculty-wide vote will occur later this month.
 - We'll begin working on bylaw revisions in Spring.
 - Develop and maintain data on the Liberal Arts Curriculum
 - We'll build data management into the assessment plan.
 - Develop and implement a program for assessing the LAC
 - Muller and Markowski have volunteered to serve on the assessment sub-committee.
 - Wood met with Kim Black to discuss support for LAC assessment.
 - A compilation of GTP competencies has been posted to Teams.
- **Standing Reports**
 - *GE Council* (Matchett) – No Report
 - *AVP of Undergraduate Studies* (Matchett) – Undergraduate programs are submitting their program narrative updates to accommodate the new Liberal Arts Curriculum.
 - Heiny – There are approximately 55 programs left in need of update. The Registrar's Office is reaching out this week to units who have yet to begin the process. The Registrar's Office can share the communication and list of programs if



LAC is interested in additional outreach/follow up.

- *Core Curriculum Committee Reports*
 - **Language and Mathematics** (Wood) – ENG 323 is ready for review. We've shared our additional CO3 requirements, available in Teams. They are aligned with best practices of writing across the curriculum/writing in the disciplines (WAC/WID).

DISCUSSION: Matchett noted that Requirement 5 may be challenging to monitor: "Instructors should have training and/or credentials in writing pedagogy." Requiring specific instructor training is a significant change in practice. We'll need to work with the Registrar's Office and IT to create a sustainable way to monitor which faculty are authorized to teach CO3 courses. UNC's Writing Program and CETL will offer faculty WAC/WID learning opportunities each Spring.

- **History, Literature, and Humanities** (Smith) – No Report
- **Philosophy and the Arts** (Yamprai) – ANT 292 has been reviewed and cannot be recommended for inclusion as it is currently designed; Yamprai has followed up with the faculty member regarding the CCC's suggestions. Further review to occur when updated material is provided.
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** (Beals) – Rebecca Beals has stepped up as the CCC chair but is unable to attend LAC meetings this term. GER 116 and BA 251 are currently in the SBS queue.
- **Physical and Life Sciences** (Baird) – No Report
- **International and Multicultural Studies** (Kraver) – There are many courses seeking IS/MS in the workflow, including GER 116. We've voted to approve the course; it still needs the SBS review. Regarding the concerns about IS/MS, let's continue the conversation after the semester ends.
- *Ad Hoc Committee Reports*
 - **Assessment and Curriculum** (Wood) – We're hoping to make connections between LAC, CETL, and the University Assessment Council to establish sustainable assessment practices. If you're interested and available to serve please volunteer.
 - Current members: Wood, Markowski, and Muller
 - Kraver volunteers to join the subcommittee.
 - Matchett is happy to support the assessment team.
 - We need to be mindful of equity and inclusion goals, as they play a central role in UNC's strategic plan. In assessing IS/MS designations, we need to ascertain whether they are performing their intended function in the LAC.
 - **Outreach & Communication** (Kraver) – We have a student with a one-credit internship who can help serve as the LAC outreach committee intern and promote LAC through social media, podcasts, etc. More information to come next semester.

Unfinished Business

- **Assessment Planning**
 - We've compiled GTP competencies as a starting point from which to build LAC program outcomes.
 - All LAC courses already roll up to at least one of these competencies.
 - There is a Diversity & Global Learning state competency (applies to GT-SS2, GT-SS3) that can serve as a starting point for building IS/MS outcomes that go beyond SS2/SS3. Needs to be applicable to Arts & Humanities, History, as well as Social & Behavioral Sciences designations.



New Business

- **LAC Appeals**

DISCUSSION: The Council considered the question of what *types* of LAC appeals ought to be brought for Council deliberation. Most of the appeals brought to the Council have been related to the applicability of specific course(s), but there are also appeals asking for exemptions from LAC policy (e.g. exemptions relating to credit hours or minimum distribution). The AVP UG studies adjudicates LAC appeals, but it is helpful to seek the Council's advice, especially in matters of curriculum expertise. Couch provided some background regarding LAC-related policy exemptions; there's been about 71 related to the LAC since 2017. Wood recommends the Council reviews the four appeals on the agenda today; then, when it is time to revise LAC bylaws, we can address what types of appeals come before the Council.

- **Delier appeal** – requesting to grant an exception to the minimum 40-credit LAC requirement due to the student having already completed all areas of the Core.
 - Unlike other appeals that have come before the Council, this appeal is not for a specific course.
 - Student has 38 credits applied toward the LAC, and a total of 77 credits applied toward degree requirements.
 - As the student has plenty of credits remaining before degree completion, there is no need to grant an exception.

MOTION: Geisendorfer – It is moved to deny Delier's appeal.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **LeMay appeal** – requesting to grant an exception to the additional area 3/5 requirement due to the student already completing two 5c courses.
 - Current LAC policy states that the additional area 3/5 cannot come from the same subgroup in area 5.
 - Student has 48 credits applied toward the LAC, with all areas otherwise met except the additional 3/5, and is on track for Spring graduation.

MOTION: Smith – It is moved to approve LeMay's appeal to waive the additional area 3/5 requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Kent appeal** – requesting to waive the LAC area 7 requirement due to the student having already completed 53 total LAC hours.
 - All areas of the LAC are satisfied except area 7.
 - As is the case for many distance Dietetics majors, the student has transferred in the majority of their coursework. All the credit applied to the LAC is transfer work.
 - Student has a 4.00 GPA and would otherwise be ready for graduation.

MOTION: Harraf – It is moved to approve Kent's appeal to waive LAC area 7.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Weigandt appeal** – requesting to apply ASIA 216 to the LAC area 7 requirement.
 - In Fall 2019, the Council voted to include ASIA 216 in area 7.
 - The student took ASIA 216 in Summer 2020 right before it had area 7 designation, starting Fall 2020.
 - It is reasonable to suppose the course requirements and outcomes were the same across the time the course was approved and when it was offered as LAC in Fall



2020.

MOTION: Kraver – It is moved to approve Weigandt’s appeal to apply ASIA 216 toward the LAC area 7 requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Course Review**

- **ENG 323 Advanced Argument** – new course nominated for Advanced Writing + GT-CO3
 - Fully reviewed and approved by the CCC for inclusion.
 - All syllabus criteria are met.
 - The instructor(s) slated to teach the course meet the requirements for teaching the course.
 - Standardized test scores can be used for placement; students cannot skip CO1 or CO2 of their own volition.

MOTION: Smith – It is moved to approve the course for inclusion in LAC Advanced Writing and GT-CO3.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

Comments for the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm.

Tara Wood
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary