



Liberal Arts Council

Council Meeting
Campus Commons 2204
August 31, 2021 3:30-5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Present: Beals (Nelson), Beyers, Denny, Geisendorfer, Houston, Leatherman, Matchett, McClatchey, Muller, Smith, Staton, Steele, Uglean Jackson, Urbach, Wood, Yamprai
Absent: Kraver

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:40pm.

Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (04/20/2021)

Approved without objection.

Announcements

Reports

• **Chair's Report** (Wood)

- Orientation to the Liberal Arts Council
 - Overview of Board Policy and bylaws
 - Explanation of membership and the powers & duties of the CCCs and Council
 - Full chair's report available on the LAC SharePoint
- Report on LAC Policy Exemptions reviewed over Summer
 - Triplett – request to waive lab requirement in Area 6, *Denied*
 - Edmonds – request to waive the two-subgroup requirement in Area 3, *Approved*
 - Roche – request to waive Area 8, *Approved*
 - Garcia – registration appeal for HIST 224, *Denied*
 - Stubbs – request to apply course to Area 7, *Approved*
 - Baker – request to waive 1.33 credits in Area 6, *Approved*

• **Standing Reports**

- *GE Council* (Matchett)
 - **Relationships between Guaranteed Transfer Pathways/State regulations and UNC's Liberal Arts Curriculum**
 - State policy is designed to allow local institutional control of the general education curriculum.
 - gtP and LAC required content criteria and competencies are identical for all corresponding designations, except for UNC's own IS/MS designations which are unique to our institution and do not have gtP counterparts.
 - Effectively, if a course is meeting LAC requirements, it is also meeting the



corresponding gtP requirements; the only additional requirement for gtP is the inclusion of the CDHE statement on the syllabus.

▪ **Work-Based Learning and other PLA requirements**

- State policy requires PLA options for all courses (not just LAC courses); if a student wants an option to test out/provide a portfolio for evaluation, then we must review to see if meets the required outcomes.
- Units are not required to have a challenge exam option ready to go, but they need to be prepared to act swiftly on student requests for PLA.
- To request a challenge exam/PLA, students contact the respective academic unit who offers the course they are seeking to challenge.
- Units need to be aware of the option for students to challenge a course. We can include this message when we notify units about the approval of their courses into the LAC.
- Work-based learning is a form of PLA; the idea is that a student might have experience or a certificate that could be part of a course requirement.
- The GE Council is working with an external consultant to explore options for applicability and implementation. The consultants recognize it is challenging to map work-based experiences to the gtP framework. Work-based learning is more relevant to the Colorado Community Colleges System with their technical/vocational degrees.

▪ **Statewide Articulation Agreements (STAAs)**

- STAAs are agreements between two- and four-year institutions to ensure that students who have completed their two-year degree through an STAA are able to transfer and graduate from their four-year program in an additional two years/sixty credit hours.
- STAAs are mandated in State statute.
- Students who have completed their Associate degree will have their LAC requirements waived when they transfer to UNC, since they have met State general education requirements.
- If we think about adding a degree program that is part of an STAA, we must be aware of the corresponding requirements at the two-year institutions.
- For other degrees not subject to STAAs, separate and non-regulated agreements are still an option. We want to have such agreements documented.

○ *AVP of Undergraduate Studies (Matchett)*

▪ **Relationship between AVPUGS and LACouncil**

- The Liberal Arts Council is the only faculty council responsible to an administrator, in this case the AVP of Undergraduate Studies.

▪ **Relationship between LACurriculum and Major Requirements**

- We changed the way the catalog lists degree requirements to meet the spirit of gtP. Institutions can't *require* particular general education courses, but we can make them *recommended* for a major.
- Units can still require specific LAC courses as part of their major; these courses must be listed as a major requirement. That is to say, the course is required part of the major itself, not just for the purposes of general education requirements.
- The perception exists that LAC courses are used to recruit majors. However, more students are coming into UNC with more transfer credits and even with



their general education requirements already fulfilled.

- Units need to think about how students are increasingly coming to UNC for the last two years of a four-year degree.
- *Core Curriculum Committee Reports*
 - **Written Communication & World Languages** (Wood) – No Report.
 - **History, Literature, & Humanities** (Smith) – No Report.
 - **Philosophy & the Arts** (Yamprai) – No Report.
 - **Social & Behavioral Sciences** (Beals) – No Report.
 - **Mathematics & Natural Sciences** (Steele) – No Report.
 - **International & Multicultural Studies** (Kraver) – No Report.
- *Ad Hoc Committee Reports*
 - **Assessment & Curriculum** (Wood)
 - We've drafted indirect assessment memos to go out to units with courses that will undergo syllabus audit this coming Spring. The memos will go out in September. Next semester the CCCs will review selected syllabi to ensure compliance with current standards. Teaching syllabi (one per course) will be selected at random from Digital Measures.
 - We are looking for volunteers for the assessment subcommittee.
 - **Outreach & Communication** (Kraver) – No Report.

Unfinished Business

New Business

- **LAC Bylaws**

- The committee reviewed the bylaws as amended last semester.

MOTION: Wood – It is moved to approve the bylaws and send to Codification for review.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote

- **Council goals/priorities for AY22**

- Call for members to think about what other items/topics the Council may want to address in the next year
- One possible topic: Could 300/400 level courses be allowed in the LAC?
 - Per State policy, only 100/200 level courses can be part of gtPathways (except for GT-CO3); however, institutions retain control over what courses may be adopted into their local general education requirements.

- **Requests for Exemptions**

- **Howk** – request to waive the IS requirement due to completion of LAC Area 7
 - Student changed their major, which resulted in a change of catalog year to 21/22 and change from the Liberal Arts Core to the Liberal Arts Curriculum.
 - Student had fulfilled LAC Area 7 with the completion of FR 101; this course was not carried over to IS in the new Liberal Arts Curriculum due to its 100-level status (World Language courses must be Intermediate/200-level).
 - Student has 120 total hours and has already met the required 31 hours for the LAC (with only IS left unfulfilled).
 - Smith noted the student has also completed an Asian Civilization course.

MOTION: Smith – It is moved to approve Howk's request to waive the IS requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.



- **Cardenas** – request to waive 40-hour LAC requirement
 - Student has completed 39 credits in the LAC with all LAC areas met.
 - Student has completed 108 overall and will be student teaching and graduating in Spring 2022.
 - Approval is consistent with past decisions.

MOTION: Denny – it is moved to approve Cardenas' request to waive the 40-hour LAC requirement.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

Comments for the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.

Tara Wood
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary