

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

November 9, 2021 | 3:30pm

UC Council Room

MINUTES

Present: Couch, Denny, Dineen, Franklin, Klein, Matchett, Park, Rose, Somero, Tucker

Absent: Benavidez, Fulton, Henson, Weber, Welsh, Zukiewicz

Guests: Beyers, Black, Crow, Zellers

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of Minutes 10-12-21

Approved without objection.

Chair's Report/Announcements (Franklin)

Reports from Councils

- **LAC (Denny)** – The Council approved a policy to allow the Registrar's Office to 'grandfather' completion of the IS/MS requirements for students who move forward to a new catalog year and had completed LAC Areas 7/8 with courses that were not carried over to the new IS/MS designations. Indirect assessment memos were sent out. Several course proposals are under review.
- **Assessment Council (Dineen)** – Work is underway in the ILO assessment cohorts; participants in the ILO assessment pilot are invited to participate in the annual symposium. A report will be available in Spring. The Council has formed two sub-groups: one for assessment planning and one for assessment policy.

Special Reports

- **Schulze Chair update (Matchett)**
 - Matchett thanked Franklin and Crow for the memo summarizing the feedback from UGC and HFAC.
 - The Council discussed top candidates and what strengths/perspectives each might bring to the Schulze Chair position.
 - Matchett will let Scott know when an official decision is reached.

Unfinished Business

- **Prior UNC degree credit applicability**
 - Couch provided context about what other institutions stipulate for the 30 additional credits required for a 2nd BA degree.
 - Many institutions state that at least 30 credits must not have been used toward a prior bachelor's degree.

DISCUSSION:

- Having 30 unique credits may be sufficient.
- Majors are often more than 30 hours; consider what potential overlap between degree programs may be allowable.

- Couch will draft policy revisions to bring to a later meeting.
- **S/U grading policy**
 - Dineen presented the subcommittee’s document of considerations for a permanent S/U grading option.
 - How these questions are answered will inform how the policy will be written.
 - **Rationale** – What is the purpose of the policy, and why would students choose the S/U option (e.g., to encourage exploration beyond a student’s major)
 - Rationale is needed for policy review/approval, but a rationale would not be part of the actual policy.
 - **Definitions** – “S+”, “S”, and “U” are already defined as grades; “S+” satisfies the need to distinguish the grade as equivalent to “C-“ or higher for transfer purposes.
 - **Who is eligible** – Perhaps there should be GPA restrictions. Some schools prohibit students on academic probation from using S/U. Some schools have special policies/limitations for students in certain programs (e.g., licensure, business).
 - **What courses are eligible** – If exploration is the rationale, it seems appropriate that LAC courses should be eligible for S/U grading.
 - Be aware of the interplay between major requirements and the LAC.
 - If a major requires letter grades for program requirements, there may be issues when a student explores a course as S/U, then decides to add that major.
 - The policy could be written so programs must accept S/U grading for LAC courses in the major.
 - **How many credits can be taken as S/U** – What might the maximum number of S/U credits be, and how will it be measured (per semester, per academic year, per degree)?
 - The limit should be carefully considered, especially regarding potential Financial Aid impacts.
 - **How/when students apply** – What will the timing of selection be (early or later in the term)? What, if any, approvals will be needed (e.g., advisor, instructor)?
 - **FAQs/disclaimers/recommendations** – A strong FAQ section is recommended to help guide students and advisors.
 - The subcommittee will take the Council’s feedback and work on a policy recommendation.
- **Policies surrounding expectations for Canvas use**
 - Kathy Zellers and Kim Black attended to aid the Council in discussion of Canvas use and best practices.
 - Canvas is designed to meet many different needs in different ways. IDD works to provide training and develop templates to help faculty utilize the digital infrastructure in ways that benefit students and support instructors.
 - Zellers shared a document outlining recommendations for Canvas use based on different modalities:
 - Fully online courses – virtual classroom

- Canvas is the required platform
- Use an online classroom template from a portfolio of options created in partnership with IDD (includes standard and custom options – standard options are customizable)
- Instructors complete training in Canvas (on demand training built into classroom templates)
- Fully face-to-face courses – physical classroom
 - Use Canvas course shell
 - At a minimum Canvas shell should include the following:
 - Homepage (could be syllabus)
 - Syllabus
 - Gradebook
- Hybrid courses – physical and virtual classrooms
 - Use Canvas course shell as per face-to-face requirements
 - Adopt other relevant aspects of online course template that at a minimum include the following:
 - Course module tool with an overview of activities
 - Assignment tool
 - Communications tool (announcement, discussions, opportunities for students to communicate with each other when in the online classroom)
- Training is a crucial part of any minimum expectations. In addition to webinars and individual/group consultations, IDD is setting up on-demand/asynchronous training modules and customizable templates.

DISCUSSION:

- Franklin noted that Extended Campus already has a set of expectations for those teaching Extended Campus courses.
- What about the student side?
 - Introductory guides/tutorials for students are available through IM&T.
 - Introductory information can also be incorporated into the Start Here module.
 - maybe with a quiz on the basics of navigating/utilizing Canvas
 - The Council would like student feedback on what might be helpful.
- Consider whether to create a policy or just recommendations for best practices.
 - Graduate Council may want to weigh in.
 - Any policy recommendation would go to APC before moving to Faculty Senate.
 - Even if UNC eventually moves to a different learning management system, the same principles and general functionality would still be applicable.
- Black will share a Fall 2020 Student Experience Survey report related to Canvas use.
- The Council will continue discussion next time.

• Syllabus Statements

New Business

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.

Scott Franklin
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary