

University Undergraduate Academic Council
March 2, 2016
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Adams Center Conference Room

Present: S. Lewis, C. Bacon, S. Stewart, C. Pruett, V. McCracken, S. Jones, G. Powell,

Absent: I. Shepherd, S. Wages, V. Williams

Ex-officios: W. Paris, E. Gumm, P. Vardiman (B. Fang and J. Weaver were not present)

Guests: David Christianson, David Hendricks, Lynette Sharp-Penya, Rodney Ashlock, Dana Pemberton, Ron Morgan

The meeting began at 3:33 p.m.

- I. Call to order by S. Lewis.
- II. Prayer by C. Bacon.
- III. Approval of the minutes from 2.17.16

Motion to approve the minutes by G. Powell; seconded by S. Stewart; all in favor; motion passes.

Information Items:

- IV. MATH 351 – Prerequisite Change
- V. EDUC 490 – Title Change

As these were information only, there was no discussion.

Action Items:

- VI. BCOR 310 - Proposal to Remove Requirement

Rodney Ashlock – We are not going to keep BCOR on the books for our department. We will teach it out for 2016-17. Spring of 2017 we hope to have a new course available that will incorporate elements of the BCOR course. It will be part of the upper division general education selections for the 15 hour Bible requirement. This will give students more choice. S. Lewis – The voting question for the council is the removal of BCOR from the required listings from the university requirements and adding an additional Bible elective.

Motion to approve by S. Jones; seconded by C. Bacon; all in favor; motion passes.

VII. Eliminating CORE 115 as a requirement for transfer students

S. Lewis – The reasoning for removing CORE 115 is that much of the content is the same as CORE 210. Faculty voted to remove CORE 210, so this is a similar situation. E.

Gumm – This only applies to students who matriculated from high school more than a year ago and have 24 or more transfer hours. Removing this course means that a transfer student would not take any CORE upon coming to ACU. This is potentially the course that introduces students to our expectations for critical thinking and high level work. C. Bacon – Students can learn critical thinking in many classes, not just in the CORE courses. I think removing this barrier to transfer students is a good thing.

Motion to approve by S. Stewart; seconded by S. Jones; all in favor; motion passes.

VIII. THED Degree Plan – Add READ 322 as major requirement

D. Pemberton – Taking these two items together (THED and ARTT). National and state accountability processes have increased significantly. Our students need to have exposure to the full teacher education experience to have the best chance to be successful in the market. Students have reported that they don't feel prepared for the upper level EDUC 476 course because they were not exposed to the prerequisite content in READ 322. Adding this back into the degree plans will address this issue.

Motion to approve both changes to THED and ARTT by G. Powell; seconded by S. Stewart; all in favor; motion passes.

IX. ARTT Degree Plan – Add READ 322 as major requirement

See above.

Motion to approve see above.

X. MSSS, MSLA, and MSMA – Revision of Majors

D. Pemberton – It has become apparent that these candidates are looking to teach at the higher level (grades 6-8). The secondary block is a better fit for them, so we are looking to give them the choice to specify their emphasis in order to better prepare them for certification.

Motion to approve by S. Stewart; seconded by S. Jones; all in favor; motion passes.

XI. Sociology – Revision of Major Requirements

This is putting back what used to be in the program and adding SOCI 495. Removing capstone requirement for SOCI 415.

Dependent on new course approval, so since the course approval was tabled, we will table this one also.

Motion to table these two proposals (revision of major and revision of minor) by C. Bacon; seconded by V. McCracken; all in favor; motion passes.

XII. Sociology – Revision of Minor Requirements

Unclear about the BIBP course still in the minor. Is that intended? V. McCracken - That needs to be clarified before we can vote on that.

S. Lewis – While you are asking questions, why do they have 2 writing intensive courses?

E. Gumm – It is unusual for a capstone course to be included in a minor requirement.

Motion to table – see above.

XIII. SOCI 495 – New Course (includes Capstone elements)

L. Sharp-Penya – The rationale is that SOCI 415 is the current capstone course and while it used to be taken predominantly by sociology majors, it now is taken by a wide variety of other majors. Sometimes only a quarter of the students are actually sociology majors. We would like to remove the capstone requirement from this course and add it to this new course that would be more directed to sociology students. S. Lewis – Usually we approve the course without the capstone elements. UGEC will vote to approve the capstone elements, then it comes back to UUAC to approve the capstone. If we would like to change that process, we can. S. Stewart – So it wouldn't have to come back to us? S. Lewis – It would be contingent on UGEC approval.

E. Gumm – Will SOCI 415 remain the writing intensive course? L. Sharp-Penya – Yes. There is a page that was left out of this document showing the competencies and measures. There are some additional pieces that are missing for capstone approval. S. Lewis – The capstone piece needs some work, it seems to me. S. Jones – I think things need to be corrected before we move forward even for course approval. I move to table the course pending corrections.

Corrections requested: Clear up inconsistencies between the application and syllabus to include the resume in the table of competencies. The capstone project need better definition of how it meets the criteria. The source and page information for the paper – a minimum threshold needs to be specified. G. Powell seconds motion to table.

Motion to table pending corrections by S. Jones; seconded by G. Powell; all in favor; motion passes.

- XIV. MATW 030 and MATW 130 – Close MATW 030 and embed workshop into MATW 130.

S. Lewis – I think we can consider these next two items together. D. Hendricks – When Academic Advance closed, we developed these courses to help mainstream students with lower math skills through the course requirements. We initially tried it with faculty lecture and student led labs. That model didn't prove successful, so now faculty are teaching Monday-Thursday. This would simplify things for the faculty only having one syllabus and one set of grades to enter. It would make it easier for a student to register as well. E. Gumm – Since we are reusing the same number – a past student would have the new information reflected on their transcript. Since the credit hours are the same, it shouldn't matter. Only the faculty workload would be affected.

Motion to approve both MATH 130 and 120 proposals by S. Stewart; seconded by G. Powell; all in favor; motion passes.

- XV. MATW 020 and MATW 120 – Close MATW 020 and embed workshop into MATW 120.

See above.

- XVI. MATT – Revision of a Major

D. Hendricks – Our visiting committee suggested we reduce the number of mathematic courses we require in this major to something a little more in line with what other schools are doing. This program has more math requirements than some of our pure mathematics tracks. We are trimming the math requirements down to a more reasonable level. We are dropping MATH 247 and removing 6 hours of requirements from other math courses. We are asking students to go back and take computer science instead of the MATH 218 we had initially planned to create. This will put us back in line with what other schools do. S. Lewis – The teacher education council approved this. D. Pemberton – We've been working with the math department to make this program a good fit for our students. We support the change. E. Gumm – Do you anticipate your math teaching majors switching to the new catalog? D. Hendricks – Not our juniors and seniors, but I would expect our freshmen and sophomores to want to switch. D. Pemberton – My discomforts with this is by taking out the requirements for AP training, etc., and making them electives, students may not take the courses we advise them to take if it is not forced upon them. D. Hendricks – But this takes us more in line with other schools, and it might make the track more attractive to other students. S. Lewis – Question about CS 115 or 120 – Is there room for the influx of math majors? Did you investigate that? D. Hendricks – I did not. S. Jones – How many majors do you have? D. Hendricks – We have about 3 new students a year in this program. E. Gumm – There are sections of CS 115 and 120 this spring with a cap at 40 students that only have current enrollment in the 20's. So we have capacity.

Motion to approve by S. Jones; seconded by C. Bacon; all in favor; motion passes.

XVII. MATH 247 – Close Course

D. Hendricks – Due to the recommendations of our visiting committee previously outlined, we felt like we had to give up one math teaching class, and my colleagues said that this was the easiest one to give up. The hard part was that it was included on the middle school degree plans. D. Pemberton – We have a plan to adjust. D. Hendricks – The content will be absorbed into several other courses already being taught without necessitating any significant change to those courses' content.

Motion to approve by S. Stewart; seconded by C. Pruett; all in favor; motion passes.

XVIII. MATH 418 – New Course

E. Gumm – This course is actually already on the 2015-16 degree plan. So we will need to either approve the course or revise the degree plan. D. Pemberton – This course will train teachers in a field experience manner and make our program distinctive. D. Hendricks – This is a cooperative, interdepartmental program. It has been attached as a lab to MATH 410 in the past, which is why there was a co-requisite in the past. The content is not tied to MATH 410, however, so it doesn't need a co-requisite moving forward.

Motion to approve by G. Powell; seconded by S. Stewart; all in favor; motion passes.

XIX. HIST 491 – New Course

R. Morgan – This is more than a name change of the old Far East course. It was taught once before as a special topics course. S. Lewis – Are we closing HIST 495? R. Morgan – We will be closing several courses at a future time. We are already working on it. S. Lewis – So we are not voting on closing. G. Powell – Do you have many courses with an oral examination? R. Morgan – She's the only teacher to utilize that method. There are about 18 students in the class. The oral exams get the students studying so they don't embarrass themselves.

Motion to approve by C. bacon; seconded by C. Pruett; all in favor; motion passes.

Meeting ended at 4:51 p.m.