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College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council  
Annual Report to L&S Faculty Senate, AY 2009-2010 (to date)

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**Chair**

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Gary Sandefur, Dean

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**Elected and Appointed Members**

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William Aylward (Classics)*	Rick Nordheim (Statistics)
Barbara Clayton (Theatre and Drama)	Seth Pollak (Psychology, LaFollette)
Ilia Guzei (Chemistry)	Aliko Songolo (African Languages and Literature, French and Italian)**
Melanie Manion (Political Science and LaFollette)	Don Waller (Botany and Biological Aspects of Conservation)

\* Appointed to serve while Professor Leary is on sabbatical.

\*\* Appointed to complete term vacated by Professor Dubrow.

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***Ex-Officio* Members**

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Debby Bush y (L&S Student Academic Affairs; Classified Staff Issues Committee)  
Michael Morgan (Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences; Chair, L&S Curriculum Committee)

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***Ex-Officio* Observers**

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Bill Barker (Acting Associate Dean for Research Services)  
Ann Groves Lloyd (Associate Dean for L&S Student Academic Affairs)  
Anne Gunther (Associate Dean for Budget and Finance)  
Charles N. Halaby (Sociology; Associate Dean for the Social Sciences)  
Magdalena Hauner (African Languages and Literature; Associate Dean for the Humanities)  
Elaine M. Klein (Assistant Dean, Academic Planning, Program Review, and Assessment)  
Lucy Mathiak (Director, Communications and College Relations)  
Guido Podest  (Associate Dean, International Studies)  
Nancy Westphal-Johnson (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Academic  
Administration)  
Eric Wilcots (Astronomy; Associate Dean for the Natural Sciences)

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**L&S Academic Planning Council Activity**

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The L&S Academic Planning Council advises the dean on strategic planning, as well as on programmatic (program review, expansion, alteration, and deletion) and fiscal matters. The council's formal operating procedures appear online in the *L&S Handbook*, at: <http://www.ls.wisc.edu/handbook/ChapterOne/APC%20Governance%20Rules.pdf>.

*Strategic Planning.* Throughout 2009-2010, Dean Sandefur has consulted the council on issues related to college and university concerns, including budgetary issues and strategic planning initiatives. Topics included:

- L&S activities as they relate to the campus-level “strategic framework”, *For Wisconsin and the World: A Great Public University*. After the Fall 2009 L&S Senate endorsement of the L&S Strategic Framework (L&S FacDoc 280), the council engaged in discussions with Dean Sandefur about how to promote activities that support those initiatives and to identify how best to represent to external audiences the wide range of research, scholarly, and outreach areas undertaken in the college. In 2009-2010, the focus on undergraduate education included the review of proposals for Madison Initiative funds (see below). Discussions about graduate student support are on the schedule. The Senate will review a progress report in Fall 2010.
- The council reviewed more than 80 proposals submitted in the second round of the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates competition. Using criteria established when the initiative was approved (i.e., increasing access to high-demand courses and programs, addressing curricular bottlenecks that increase time-to-degree, adding curricular elements that might enrich students’ “Wisconsin Experience”), members offered counsel about those proposals that seem most likely to achieve the greatest impact for the greatest number of students.
- Dean Sandefur sought advice concerning how L&S departments, programs, and interdisciplinary activities might best be allocated among the academic associate deans to balance the work required of these deans and to provide better service to departments. After extensive discussion with the APC, with department chairs, and with departments that would be most affected by the change, a proposal to change the arrangement of departments under the largest area (Arts and Humanities) and to create a new position to share these responsibilities was rejected in favor of retaining the current structure but considering how to provide better support for the associate deans.
- The council also participated in an extensive review, convened by the Provost, of the Cluster Hiring Initiative (CHI). Members reviewed documents produced by each cluster and evaluated whether or not each is achieving its mission as well as the extent to which each contributes to meeting the goals of the Initiative. In nearly every case, council members found that clusters are meeting (and often exceeding) their original goals. The council debated what might be done to continue to support the program, which was deemed to be an effective way for the university to explore new endeavors. Unfortunately, however, the university cannot afford to invest new resources in the CHI, so it must be restructured if it is to continue. To this end, the APC distinguished among the CHI groups, some of which rely more on the “cluster” mechanism than others do. The council recommended preserving as clusters those groups for which the scholarly endeavor would not persist without the ongoing commitment to the “cluster” strategy; other groups may better survive incorporation into departmental and other hiring plans. Recommendations were forwarded to the Provost’s office outlining the council’s complicated assessment of the twenty-four clusters for which L&S serves as the lead college. Professor Nordheim is also serving on the campus-level CHI review committee.

*Program Changes.* A brief list of other matters considered by the council since the Council’s last report to the L&S Senate is attached to this report (see **Attachment A**). As noted in previous APC reports, the slower pace of new program development and program changes may be related

to restricted resources. Planning efforts emphasize that resources must be available (or will be reallocated from existing programs) before new programs are approved.

- The council approved a request submitted by the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (GNIES) to develop a new L&S major in Environmental Studies. When this request was initially tendered in Spring 2008, it received a substantial amount of feedback and suggestions offered from across the college, which Dean Sandefur conveyed to the Institute. The council found that GNIES addressed all previously stated concerns. Council members were enthusiastic in supporting the proposed program, noting that it will offer students an opportunity to pursue a unique major in the liberal arts and sciences that will allow students to pursue a coherent yet broad range of study from the perspective of Environmental Studies.
- The council met with representatives from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to discuss proposed revisions to the degree structure for their “non-professional” undergraduate degrees. Information about this proposal has been made available to the university community (<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/students/majors/BSDegreeProposal.php>). CALS currently offers eight undergraduate degree programs, including four “primary” and four “professional” degrees. Within these programs, 24 majors can be pursued. This results in approximately 70 different curricular combinations. The college has proposed streamlining this system, to offer one general Bachelor of Science degree instead of the four “primary” degrees. The structure will be much more like the L&S system, in which majors are added to General Education and other degree requirements to complete a program of study in the college. Although L&S is not required to approve or comment on this proposal, the council commended CALS for taking this bold step, which promises to simplify and clarify requirements for their students. Council also advised the Dean that, if this proposal is approved, L&S and CALS should consider seeking changes to the degree names that appear on students’ diplomas (e.g., “Bachelor of Science [or, Arts] – Letters and Science” and “Bachelor of Science – College of Agricultural and Life Sciences”).

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### **Program Review Activity**

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Several regular academic program reviews are under way (**Attachment B**); for a summary of reviews completed in 2008-2009, please refer to the Dean’s Annual Report on Program Review (July 2009, at <http://www.ls.wisc.edu/handbook/ChapterOne/L&SAnnualReportonProgramReview08-09-Final.pdf>.)

Last year, Dean Sandefur and the Council recommended that L&S guidelines for program be realigned with the university’s Strategic Framework. That work was delayed while the University Academic Planning Council revised the campus-level guidelines to achieve a similar alignment. In Spring 2010, Assistant Dean Elaine Klein, who facilitates this process for the college, will present a proposal to the APC regarding this process.

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## **Membership Changes**

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The council wishes to thank three departing members for their service on the council. Professor Songolo, who stepped in for Professor Dubrow when she left the university, will be completing one of the two faculty terms representing the Arts and Humanities. Dr. Clayton will complete her term as one of the council's elected Academic Staff representatives. (Nominations are being sought to fill these positions on the council.) Professor Aylward's one-year *ad hoc* appointment to the council will end when Professor Leary returns from sabbatical.

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## **Questions and Comments**

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Questions about this report or the Council's activities may be submitted to Dean Sandefur, to the Associate Dean responsible for the department or program involved, or to Assistant Dean Elaine M. Klein ([kleine@ls.admin.wisc.edu](mailto:kleine@ls.admin.wisc.edu)).

Submitted by Elaine M. Klein, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean, L&S Academic Planning, Program Review and Assessment

### L&S Program Reviews in Progress

<b>Department/Program (Major Code)</b>	<b>Self Study</b>	<b>Committee Review</b>	<b>Committee Report</b>	<b>APC Discussion</b>
Asian Studies (092) Concentrations: East Asian, Southeast Asian. MA Southeast Asian Studies (935) Cert. in East Asian	Charged Fall 2007; Received	Committees Convened; interviews complete	Complete; responses from centers and related departments received	Spring 2010 East Asian concentration complete, memo to center in process
Communicative Disorders (216) <sup>1</sup>	Charged Fall 2008; Received	Committee visit Fall 2009	Finished; department response received	Spring 2010
Economics (261)	Charged Fall 2007; Received	Committee visit Fall 2009	Finished; department response received	Spring 2010
English (405)	Charged Fall 2008 Received	Committee visit Jan 27-29, 2010	In progress	
Capstone Certificate: Geographical Info. Systems (358)	Charged Fall 2008 Received	Committee work conducted Summer & Fall 2009	Finished; department response received	Spring 2010
Geoscience (468, 470, 472)	Charged Fall 2007 Received	Committee visit Feb 4-5, 2010	In progress	
Journalism (PhD Mass Communication – 630)	Charged Fall 2009	In progress		
Languages and Cultures of Asia (596)	Resumed Fall 2008 Received	Committee visit Fall 2009	In progress	
Linguistics (621)	Received	Committee visit Spring 2009	Received; department response late	Fall 2009
Medical Microbiology and Immunology (652) <sup>2</sup>	Pending discussion with SMPH			
Political Science (805)	Charged Fall 2008 Received	Committee visit Fall 2009	Finished; department response received	
Psychology (832; non- accredited programs only)	Charged Spring 2009; Extension to Spring 2010			
Spanish & Portuguese (936, 810; Cert Spanish for Bus Majors)	Charged Fall 2008 Received	Committee convened; scheduling site visit		
Statistics (949)	Charged Fall 2008 Received	Committee visit Feb 18 & 19, 2010	In progress	

<sup>1</sup> Several programs in Communicative Disorders (216) are accredited by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA). Programs not under accreditation should be reviewed.

<sup>2</sup> L&S-sponsored program housed in School of Medicine and Public Health; coordinate with SMPH

**OTHER REVIEWS**

<b>Joint Reviews (Major Code)</b>	<b>Self Study</b>	<b>APC Discussion</b>	<b>Committee Review</b>	<b>Committee Report</b>	<b>UAPC Action</b>
Creative Writing (243)	Charged Fall 2008; Received	Completed Spring 2009 - Continuation Recommended Transmitted to Provost	Completed	Completed	Discussion scheduled for March 2010
Second Language Acquisition (908)	Charged Spring 2008	Completed Spring 2009 - Continuation Recommended Transmitted to Provost	Committee convened	In progress	
<b>Certificate Program Reviews</b>	<b>Review convened</b>	<b>APC Discussion</b>			<b>APC Action</b>
Archaeology	July 2008				
LGBT	July 2008	Fall 2009	n/a	n/a	Continuation recommended
South Asian Studies	July 2008	Spring 2009	n/a	n/a	Continuation recommended
<b>Other</b>	<b>Review convened</b>	<b>Committee work</b>	<b>APC Discussion</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>	
UW Marching Band	February 2009	Interviews complete	In progress		
Center for World Affairs and the Global Economy	February 2009	Completed	Committee convened; review underway		

## **L&S Academic Planning Council, April 2009-March 2010**

### Changes to existing programs

- Request to rename options, International Studies Major
- Request to rename program names, from Women's Studies to Gender and Women's Studies

### Requests to create new programs

- Request to create a new PhD Minor (Global Studies), Global Studies Program and the Center for World Affairs and the Global Economy
- Request to create a new center (J. F. Crow Center for the Study of Evolutionary Biology), with the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- Request to create a new major (Environmental Studies), with Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies

### Requests for Comment or Consultation

#### UW System requests:

- UW-Oshkosh, Major in Interactive Web Technology Management
- UW-Stout, MS in Gerontology
- UW-Platteville, Major in Sustainable and Renewable Energy Systems
- UW-Oshkosh, Major in Environmental Science
- UW-Milwaukee, MS and PhD in Freshwater Science
- UW-Colleges, Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science

#### UW Madison requests:

- Proposal to restructure baccalaureate degrees in CALS
- Annual report of the Development Studies PhD program
- Proposal to create a new research center (Marsh Center for Research in Phys. Activity), School of Education
- Proposal to create a new certificate (International Certificate), CALS