

College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council

Annual Report to L&S Faculty Senate, September 2012 through September 2013

Chair

Gary Sandefur, Dean

Elected and Appointment Members

Kathryn Bartlett (Classified Staff Issues Committee appointee)
Michael (Harry) Brighthouse, Philosophy
Thomas J. Givnish, Botany (*ad hoc* appointee, for Prof. Edwards)
Diane Gooding, Psychology
John Hawks, Anthropology (*ex officio*, Chair of L&S Curriculum Committee)
Clark Johnson, Geoscience
Caroline Levine, English
Maria Muniagurria, Economics
Jennifer Noyes, Inst for Research on Poverty
Matthew Turner, Geography

Ex-Officio Members

Marianne Bird Bear, Assistant Dean (International Studies)
Maria Cancian, Associate Dean (Social Sci)
Kimbrin Cornelius, Curricular Administrative Specialist (L&S Admin)
Susan Ellis-Weismer, Associate Dean (Research)
Gery Essenmacher, Associate Dean (Student Academic Affairs)
Anne Gunther, Associate Dean (Budget, Planning & Finance)
Elaine M. Klein, Assistant Dean (Academic Planning)
Lucy Mathiak, Assistant Dean, (College Relations)
Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Associate Dean (Undergrad Ed & Academic Admin)
Eric Wilcots, Associate Dean (Natural Sciences)
DeVon Wilson, Assistant Dean (Center for Academic Excellence)
Sue Zaeske, Associate Dean (Advancement, Arts & Humanities)

L&S Academic Planning Council Activity

The L&S Academic Planning Council advises the dean on strategic planning, as well as on programmatic matters (program review, expansion, alteration, and deletion) and fiscal matters. The council's operating procedures appear online in the L&S Administrative Gateway, at <https://kb.wisc.edu/images/group86/19956/APCGovernanceRules-2012rev.pdf>

New Programs and Program Changes. As noted in previous reports, new program development requires identification of resources available to support these endeavors. One way L&S has encouraged new program development is to encourage proposals presented under the L&S 'Innovations' paradigm. Under this paradigm, departments and programs to find new ways to achieve fiscal savings, or create additional revenue that can then be reinvested in the unit. As

mentioned in previous APC reports, these initiatives are intended to build on existing strengths. They are likely to include proposals to serve new groups of students or to offer existing programs in ways that reach new audiences. Under this 'Innovations' paradigm, several new programs were approved:

- Economics - MS (New named option). This option is intended to prepare a new audience of students for admission into a high quality PhD program. Students will also gain depth in econometrics, a key marketable skill if they do not continue into a PhD program.
- Mathematics – Visiting International Student Program (VISP) and MA (New named option). Math's VISP program provides as study abroad experience for cohorts of students studying abroad. In the pilot year of this program, cohorts from a single institution will arrive for intensive study of advanced undergraduate level mathematics. The MA option is designed to build on the VISP preparation to allow further study in the United States or for professional careers that require advanced training in math.
- Computer Sciences – MS (New named option) and post-baccalaureate Capstone Certificate in Computer Sciences. Both programs are intended to serve working professionals, and will be composed of existing courses offered in managed sequences in the evenings and weekends. The certificate is for professionals from a variety of backgrounds. The Capstone Certificate is intended to prepare students who do not yet have formal training in Computer Sciences to begin work in programming. The MS program is intended for working professionals with undergraduate degrees in Computer Science or related fields, and who are seeking advanced training in computer technologies. Epic Systems Corporation has expressed keen interest in these programs; however, the department will also reach out to other local employers to recruit students.
- Political Science - New online post-baccalaureate capstone certificate, "International Politics and Practice." The proposed program is designed to educate a new student population currently working in the international field, in the military and other areas. Courses will be online, post-baccalaureate versions of concurrently offered brick-and-mortar courses.

The APC also endorsed permission to plan a new graduate program, a PhD in Evolutionary Biology. This would be a joint doctoral program that completed in connection to other existing programs that allow for an Evolutionary Biology focus.

Department/Unit Restructuring. In the 2012-2013 year, the council received a number of restructuring requests. The requests were prompted by a variety of reasons: to address issues identified in a program review; to align with current fields and practices; or to address the variety of issues that small departments may face. For guidance on the process, council members relied on the L&S policy on Departmental Creation, Restructuring or Discontinuance (see <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=20152>) which implements faculty legislation (*Faculty Policies and Procedures 5.02*) which governs substantial changes to departments. The following restructuring requests were reviewed and approved:

- Merge the Department of Comparative Literature and the Folklore Program, to create the new Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies. This request was approved by the Faculty Senate on February 4, 2013, as Faculty Document 2395.
- Change the administrative home for the Centers for Demography and Ecology (CDE) and for Demography, Health, and Aging (CHDA) from Sociology to L&S. Most similar population centers in higher education have already made a similar move away from a departmental home into an interdisciplinary center.

Relocation of Academic Programs. Several requests for programmatic change originated from the review of the undergraduate Biology major that was completed in 2010-2011. The review committee recommended that academic programs administered by the Institute for Biology Education be moved to departmental homes in L&S and CALS.

- Change the administrative home of biology major from Institute for Biology Education to academic departments in L&S (Zoology) and CALS (Bacteriology). The primary responsibility for introductory biology courses will be in Zoology, and the primary responsibility for the major will be in Bacteriology.
- Relocate administration of Biological Aspects of Conservation from Institute for Biology Education to L&S (Botany).
- Relocate the administrative home of Molecular Biology from the Instituted for Biology Education to L&S (Zoology).

A further recommendation arising from discussion of the review of the Biology major was that L&S and CALS work more effectively together to administer this, and other, joint programs. The APC endorsed the recommendation that L&S and CALS should convene cross-college meetings of their Curriculum Committees and Academic Planning Councils once each semester, beginning in Fall 2013, to facilitate joint discussion of these shared programs.

Program Review. The APC completed reviews of several certificate programs:

- Archeology undergraduate certificate
- Spanish for Business majors undergraduate certificate
- Computer Sciences undergraduate certificate
- Medieval Studies undergraduate certificate
- Celtic Studies undergraduate certificate
- Middle East Studies Certificate

In 2012-13, the L&S guidelines for program review approved by the council the previous year were first implemented. Whereas previous guidelines encompassed all departmental operations, these guidelines focus on academic programs, assessment of student learning, and departmental

operations that have an impact on programs. This focus is intended both to streamline the review process and to recognize that other activities (such as strategic planning or climate surveys) should be pursued more frequently than mandated ten-year program review. The focus on academic programs also allows departments (in consultation with their Associate Dean and the Assistant Dean for Academic Planning) to capture work related to substantial program assessment and revision as “review”.

In 2012-13, the following reviews were convened:

- French & Italian
- Hebrew & Semitic Studies
- Integrated Liberal Studies
- Botany
- Zoology
- Physics
- Communication Arts
- International Studies
- Sociology

These reviews are on course to be completed in 2013-14. For more information about program review, please see the L&S Administrative Gateway: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=24811>.

Policy Matters and Consultations of the Dean

The council discussed a variety of issues which might have policy implications for the college. Matters presented to the council for consideration or consultation included such topics as:

- Optimal department size, and how L&S might encourage small departments to consider alternative structures
- Campus and L&S policy regarding undergraduate Directed Study
- L&S Budget Status Report Process
- Critical Compensation Fund Processes
- Educational Innovations and curricular change
- The proposed College of the Arts
- L&S Academic Planning Council Operating Guidelines
- Convening and charging the Foreign Language Task Force

Questions and Comments

This report was approved by the L&S Academic Planning Council on March 4, 2013. Questions about this report or the council’s activities may be submitted to the Associate Dean responsible for the department or program involved, or to Assistant Dean M. Klein (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

L&S Academic Planning Council, September 2012- May 2013

Requests related to academic programs

- 9/18/2012. Create: New Named Option in Economics MS
- 9/18/2012. Discontinue: Economics MA
- 10/02/2012. Approved request for permission to plan a PhD in Evolutionary Biology
- 10/16/2012. Approved request to create a new subject listing for English and English as a Second Language courses (to allow the department to reorganize their entire course array)
- 12/18/2012. Create: New Named Option in Math MA
- 04/02/2013. Create: New Named Option in Computer Sciences
- 04/02/2013. Create: New Post baccalaureate Capstone Certificate in Computer Sciences.
- 05/16/2013. Create: New online Post baccalaureate Capstone Certificate “International Politics and Practice” (Political Science)
- 05/07/2013. Approved request for non-admitting status for Advance Studies Specialists Certificate.

The L&S APC approved the following requests for restructuring:

- 10/16/2012. Merge of Comparative Literature and Folklore Program.
- 11/06/2012. Update policy on “Creating, Restructuring, or Discontinuing Departments, Programs, and Department-like units”
- 02/05/2013. Move administrative home of Biological Aspects of Conservation (BAC major from Institute for Biology Education to L&S (Botany).
- 02/19/2013. Move administrative home of the Biology major from Institute for Biology Education to L&S (Zoology) and CALS (Bacteriology).
- 02/19/2013. Move administrative home for the Centers for Demography and Ecology (CDE) and for Demography, Health and Aging (CHDA) from Sociology to L&S.
- 05/07/2013: Relocate home of Molecular Biology from Institute for Biology Education to Department of Zoology.

Requests for Comment or Consultation

The L&S APC recommended that UW-Madison support the following requests from UW System institutions, which are seeking to plan the following new programs:

- 11/06/2012. UW Stout: BS in Environmental Science
- 02/05/2013. UW River Falls: MS in Computer Science
- 04/02/2013. UW Stout: Professional Master of Science in Conservation Biology
- 05/17/2013. UW Stout: BS in Criminal Justice

The L&S APC recommended support for the following requests for program activity at UW-Madison:

- 02/05/2013. Name change: Engineering graduate programs (MS, PhD and minor) in Limnology and Marine Science (to “Freshwater and Marine Science”)

The L&S APC returned the following request, seeking more information:

- 10/02/2012. Request to create an undergraduate certificate in Statistics.

The L&S did not support:

- 05/07/2013. Request to create a College of the Arts.