
College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council
Annual Report to L&S Faculty Senate, March 2011 through May 2012

Chair

Gary Sandefur, Dean

Elected and Appointed Members

Harry Brighthouse (Philosophy)	Erik (Rick) Nordheim (Statistics; term completed Fall '11)
Ilia Guzei (Chemistry; term completed Fall '11)	Jennifer Noyes (Institute for Research on Poverty; term began Spring '12)
Clark Johnson (Geoscience; term began Spring '12)	Seth Pollak (Anthropology, Psychology and LaFollette; term completed Spring '11)
Jim Leary (Folklore, Scan Studies, Term completed Fall '11)	Stephanie Robert (Social Work)
Caroline Levine (English, term began Spring '12)	Don Waller (Botany and Biological Aspects of Conservation)
Melanie Manion (Political Science and LaFollette)	
Maria Muniagurria (Economics)	

Ex-Officio Members

Diane Gooding (Psychology; 2011-2012 L&S Curriculum Committee Chair)
Anita Lightfoot (Integrated Liberal Studies; Classified Staff Issues Committee, 2010-2011, 2011-2012)
Kris Olds (Geography; 2010-2011 L&S Curriculum Committee Chair)

Ex-Officio Observers

Maria Cancian (LaFollette and Social Work, Associate Dean for the Social Sciences) (January 2011)
Susan Ellis-Weismer (Communicative Disorders, Associate Dean for Research Services)
Gery Essenmacher (Interim Associate Dean for L&S Student Academic Affairs) (November 2010)
Anne Gunther (Associate Dean for Budget and Finance)
Charles N. Halaby (Sociology; Associate Dean for the Social Sciences) (Until January 2011)
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 Podestá (Associate Dean, International Studies)
Nancy Westphal-Johnson (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Academic Administration)
Eric Wilcots (Astronomy; Associate Dean for the Natural Sciences)
Sue Zaeske (Associate Dean for Advancement and for Arts and Humanities)
DeVon Wilson (Center for Academic Excellence; minority and diversity coordinator)

L&S Academic Planning Council Activity

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 operating procedures appear online in the *L&S Administrative Gateway*, at <https://kb.wisc.edu/lc/page.php?id=19956>. During the period covered in this report, the APC discussed several matters that have a broad impact on the college:

The L&S Climate Committee presented a statement concerning the relationships between the three types of employment categories in the college. The "Statement on Climate" was circulated with a request that the guiding principles be endorsed and shared with departments and new employees:

"In partnership with Dean Gary Sandefur, the Classified Staff Issues Committee (CSIC), the Committee on Academic Staff Issues (CASI), the L&S Climate Working Group supports the mission of the College of

Letters and Science to facilitate and encourage respectful, civil, and transparent work and classroom environments on the UW-Madison campus so that all employees, students, and campus visitors may thrive and reach their fullest potential.”

The APC enthusiastically endorsed this statement.

Budget Reductions and Innovations Initiatives The dean engaged the APC in frequent discussions of L&S budget reductions, seeking guidance in setting principles that might guide the dean and associate deans in making determinations about those reductions. Six principles were developed to inform financial decision-making in L&S :

- a. Importance to the undergraduate educational mission of the College
- b. Importance to the research and creative activities of the College
- c. Ability to bring in extramural funding
- d. Strength of the graduate program
- e. Importance to the diversity of the college
- f. Future importance to activities within the College

The dean also sought counsel about how best to develop and maintain consistency in making these decisions. These discussions informed development of the “Budget Status Report” process.

The council also considered various proposals presented under the “Innovations” paradigm, which encourages departments and programs to seek ways to achieve fiscal savings that can then be reinvested in the unit. 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. The dean and council anticipate that several proposals will be considered and developed in the 2012-2013 academic year.

UW-Madison College of the Arts This proposal was developed by a task force charged by the Chancellor and the Deans’ Council in association with the Executive Committee of Arts Institute. The proposal has been presented to the arts community in Town Hall meetings (February 2012) and was released to departments for review (March 2012) with the request that they consider support. Some units were considered essential to discussions of a college (Art, Dance, Theatre & Drama, and the School of Music), but other members of the Arts Institute (representing other arts areas) also participated in CotA discussions. Votes were taken in March 2012, and a recommendation was delivered to the Chancellor and Provost. The question was submitted for formal consideration by the Schools and Colleges that would be affected by the creation of the new college.

The L&S APC participated in several discussions of this topic. On February 21, 2012, the council reviewed and discussed the draft proposal, with members suggesting that it should address the advantages (e.g. development, organizational, educational) for the change, include a complete and accurate budget, and provide an explanation for pursuing creation of a new college in a time of severe fiscal constraint. Members observed that students in the arts would still need to take courses from multiple colleges (as most students outside L&S must do), the particular challenges of presenting creative work as “research” in a context that favors traditional research, and concerns about the role of and perceived value for the arts on campus. The discussion of resources included the complexities envisioned for establishing a new dean’s office with college-level support structures (HR, budget office, student services, etc.), the ratio of faculty to students taught and generally lower enrollments in the arts, and the potential that creating this unit would require reallocation of resources from across the university. The council returned to discussion of a later draft of the proposal on 17 April, when Dean Sandefur provided a report and notes on the March 26, 2012 L&S Senate discussion of the proposal. At that time, the council members noted again that this initiative seems inconsistent with efforts to streamline units and conserve resources.

The May 1, 2012 APC meeting focused entirely on this topic. Council members considered the L&S Senate discussion and the report of the meeting to which the whole L&S Faculty was invited (April 30, 2012). The APC spoke with the proposal authors and supporters from L&S departments affected by the proposal, and with faculty members who represented various views held in opposition to the proposal or to the implications it may hold. The council was particularly concerned that faculty and staff believed personnel might be moved to a new academic unit within CotA against their will. APC members stated, per FP&P 5.14, faculty members must concur with any move

between departments and units. Council members noted that the divided votes in support of the proposal were conducted under ordinary departmental governance procedures (on the advice of the Secretary of the Faculty), which hold that a simple majority might carry. The APC recommended that, in the future, such a momentous decision as moving a department and its members should require a 2/3 majority vote.

As a result of its deliberations, the council made three key observations about the new UW-Madison College of the Arts proposal:

1. If the primary principle of the College of the Arts is that research, applied study and practice in Music and Theatre and Drama are essential to the mission of the college, that principle is violated if the full faculties do not choose to join the College of the Arts.
2. Because faculty members apparently do not wish to be moved and may not be moved without their concurrence, the College of the Arts as it has been proposed cannot exist.
3. It is therefore difficult for the L&S APC to render an opinion concerning the College of the Arts as it has been proposed.

The Council's discussion culminated in the unanimous approval of the following motions:

- The L&S Academic Planning Council affirms the right of faculty and staff who wish to move into the College of the Arts, should it be established, to do so.
- The L&S Academic Planning Council affirms the right of faculty and staff who choose to remain in the College of Letters & Science to do so, should a College of the Arts be created and their departments moved into it.

Further, in light of the L&S APC's expressed concern about several matters that were unanswered in the proposal or in discussion with representatives, the council charges the dean to develop a list of these issues for purposes of communicating them to the proposal authors, the Provost, and the Chancellor. This list should include, but not be limited to, a plan for appropriately staffed support units in the college (HR, Business Services and Payroll, Academic Affairs, Curricular and Academic Administration, Facilities Administration, etc.) to enable the College to be successful. Dean Sandefur and his staff will articulate these concerns more clearly on behalf of the council.

This information was communicated to the Provost for consideration by the University Academic Planning Council on June 25, 2012. (The memorandum is part of the record of that meeting, and can be found online at http://apir.wisc.edu/uapc/UAPC-2011-12/UAPC_2012.05.17.14_COTA.pdf.)

Departmental Restructuring The Department of Comparative Literature submitted a request in April 2012 to merge with the Folklore Program. Consistent with FP&P 5.02 and the L&S Policy on Creating, Restructuring, or Discontinuing Departments, Programs, and Department-like units (<https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=20152>), the council met with the Department Chair and Program Director to discuss the proposal to merge administrative resources, to develop a single governance structure, and eventually to consider curricular and programmatic changes to bring the academic programs together. The Council approved the "Request for Permission to Plan the Merger of the Department of Comparative Literature and the Program in Folklore Studies", and asked to consider the detailed plan in October 2012.

The Future of Linguistics The council considered a report submitted by a task force convened on recommendation following the review of the Department of Linguistics. This body was asked to consider opportunities available to and barriers encountered by the more than 60 faculty and staff who study and teach applied linguistics across a range of departments and programs (including, but not limited to, the Department of Linguistics). The report proposed a number of ways to develop a stronger sense of community among these scholars and practitioners, including such things as creation of an interdisciplinary certificate in applied linguistics, which might complement the more focused approach undertaken in the department.

Task Force on Languages The APC endorsed the Dean's proposal that L&S convene a taskforce to study a range of issues related to foreign language study in the College, with an eye toward offering advice concerning how to preserve and enhance the college's strength in this area.

A 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**).

Membership Changes

The Dean is grateful to three APC members, Ilia Guzei, Jim Leary and Rick Nordheim, who agreed to extend their terms by one semester in order to ensure that Fall 2011 budget discussions might benefit from their experience. When their terms ended, new members (Jennifer Noyes, Caroline Levine and Clark Johnson) were elected in their place. Stephanie Robert served as an *ad hoc* appointee in 2011-12.

Questions and Comments

This report was endorsed by the L&S Academic Planning Council on October 16, 2012. Questions about the 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 (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

Submitted by

Elaine M. Klein, PhD.
Assistant Dean, L&S Academic Planning

L&S Academic Planning Council Activity, March 2011 – May 2012

The last report of the L&S APC was submitted to the L&S Senate as faculty document 284 on 21 March 2011. This list enumerates academic program activity and commentary undertaken between March 2011 and the final meeting of the 2011-2012 academic year.

Program Review and Assessment of Student Learning

Revised Guidelines for Academic Program Review. In an effort to streamline the program review process by focusing more clearly on academic programs and student learning in them, new guidelines were approved. A consistent set of data will be provided to departments, with a clear set of questions to be addressed and information to be provided. In the event that a program or programs wish to engage in review as a mechanism for addressing particular questions, the guidelines provide for special reviews to be conducted. These guidelines are available in the L&S Administrative Gateway (see document 24812).

College-wide Learning Outcomes Added to L&S Assessment Plan. The L&S Curriculum Committee revised the L&S Assessment Plan to include a more explicit statement of college-wide learning outcomes. The plan is available in the L&S Administrative Gateway (see document 25259).

The APC completed reviews of the following departments and/or programs:

- Doctor of Audiology (Communicative Disorders)
- Department of Spanish & Portuguese
- PhD Program in Mass Communication
- Biology Major
- Wisconsin and Global Economy (WAGE) Center
- Department of Statistics

Changes to L&S Programs and Departments

The council approved a number of changes to the L&S program array.

New Certificate Programs

- Afro-American Studies (Undergraduate level; Department of Afro Am Studies)
- Communication Sciences and Disorders (Post-baccalaureate capstone certificate to prepare students for application to graduate programs in CSD or Audiology; Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders)
- Digital Studies (Undergraduate level; administered by the Digital Studies Program Committee)
- Scandinavian Studies (Undergraduate level; Department of Scandinavian Studies)
- Transdisciplinary Study of Visual Cultures (Graduate level, administered by the Center for Visual Cultures)

Changes to Existing L&S Programs

- Biological Aspects of Conservation - request to extend authority to offer this L&S major in another school/college (CALs). L&S approved this request; however CALs has not yet approved it.
- Certificate in German for Business Students – a request to delete this very low-enrollment undergraduate program was approved
- Communicative Disorders – request to change department and academic program names to “Communication Science and Disorders” was approved.
- Geophysics and Geology – request to consolidate graduate level programming in the Department of Geoscience was approved, with the plan to continue to offer a single program in “Geoscience”.
- Languages and Cultures of Asia – APC endorsed a request to discontinue several LCA graduate program options and minors because these minors are no longer offered nor are students enrolled in

them.

- Library and Information Studies – a new “named option” was approved as an administrative action to track students enrolled in the distance-delivered MA program.
- Medical Microbiology and Immunology - Request to suspend admissions to undergraduate major during program restructuring was approved; when a suitable restructuring plan could not be developed, APC approved request to discontinue the major. This request included an appropriate plan for teaching out remaining cohorts of students.
- MFA in Creative Writing (Department of English) request for an exemption to the Graduate School Thesis Committee Rules approved.

Request for Comment UW-Madison

The APC advised the Dean concerning requests for comment sought by a number of departments, programs, schools and colleges outside L&S:

- Creation of a New Athletic Training Undergraduate Program (School of Education, Kinesiology)
- Creation of a “Service Learning Indicator” for the Schedule of Courses (Morgridge Center)
- Request to move Prevention Science (PhD Minor, Graduate Certificate) from L&S to School of Nursing
- Creation of a New Undergraduate Certificate in Global Health (CALS, Nutritional Sciences and Center for Global Health)
- Suspension of Admissions to L&S Secondary Education Programs and Creation of New Master’s degree Options for Secondary Teacher Certification (School of Education)
- Creation of New Graduate Programs in Civil Society and Community Research (School of Human Ecology)
- Closure of Academic Programs in Family, Consumer and Community Education and in Consumer Affairs (School of Human Ecology)
- Campus Guidelines for For-Credit Certificate Programs (University Academic Planning Council)
- Revisions to Policy on PhD Minor Requirements (Graduate School)
- Creation of New Online MS in Sustainable Management (multiple UW System campuses)

Named Spaces in the College

The council approved two requests to name rooms to honor friends of the College:

- Room 304 South Hall is the “Judith S. Craig Conference Room”
- Room 5013 Vilas Hall is the “Jack M. McLeod Seminar Room”