
College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council Annual Report to L&S Faculty Senate (2017-2018)

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

Program Review

All UW-Madison Academic Programs must be reviewed every 10 years. Reviews are convened by the dean upon the recommendation of the associate dean, in consideration of the schedule for review maintained by the Provost. The program faculty prepares a self-study narrative that is provided to a faculty review committee and is used as the foundation for a report to the dean. The APC reviews and discusses the self-study, the review committee report, and the program's response to the report. Members advise the dean and associate deans about program strengths, contributions to student learning in the discipline, and what might be done to promote improvement. The L&S APC completed its review of the following programs in 2017-2018.

- Afro-American Studies – Undergraduate Certificate
- Asian Languages and Cultures – Chinese Professional Communication (Undergraduate Certificate), Japanese Professional Communication (Undergraduate certificate)
- Botany graduate programs – MS, PhD
- Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies – MA (including named options “Classics” and “Hebrew Biblical”), PhD (including named options “Classics” and “Hebrew Biblical”)
- Conservation Biology – BA/BS (administrative home: Botany)
- Digital Studies – Undergraduate Certificate (administrative home: Communication Arts)
- Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies – MA, PhD Minor, Dual JD/MA (administrative home: Institute for Regional and International Studies)
- Legal Studies – BA/BS, and Criminal Justice – Undergraduate Certificate (administrative home: Center for Law, Society and Justice)
- Mathematics – BA/BS, MA (including named option “Foundations of Advanced Studies”), PhD
- Statistics – BA/BS, MS (including named options “Biostatistics” and “Data Science”), PhD (including named option “Biostatistics”)

Several of the programs listed above are graduate programs, which undergo an additional level of review conducted by the Graduate Faculty Executive Committee before being reported to the Provost as complete.

The APC also discussed actions arising from prior review for two programs:

- Applied Math, Engineering, and Physics program addressed an APC request to consider how they might create a more sustainable program committee model for the AMEP undergraduate major. This report was accepted, and the council endorsed the proposal to reconstitute the program committee under new governing procedures.
- Molecular Biology program (administered by the Integrative Biology department) submitted further information to the APC in request to questions on how the program was distinct from the Biology major. This report was returned to the faculty with a request to revisit the proposed

learning outcomes and curriculum to further distinguish them from that of the Biology Major, and to ensure that governing procedures foster broad participation and strategies for ensuring succession planning for leadership transitions.

The following centers completed center reviews this year:

- Center for Humanities
- Institute for Research on Humanities

L&S Program Actions

L&S APC considers for approval proposals to create, rename, restructure/move, suspend admission to, or close programs.

New programs, minors, named options and certificates approved:

- New undergraduate certificate, “Art History” (Art History)
- New undergraduate certificate, “Public Policy” (LaFollette School of Public Affairs)
- New undergraduate certificate, “Digital Productions” (Communication Arts)
- New capstone certificate, “GIS Fundamentals” (Geography)
- New capstone certificate, “Advance GIS” (Geography)
- New capstone certificate, “Data Analytics for Decision-Making” (iSchool)
- New named options in Geography BA/BS: “Physical Geography: Earth Systems and Environmental Processes,” “Physical-Environment Geography,” and “Human Geography” (Geography)
- New named option in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems MS, “Accelerated/Non-Thesis” (Geography)
- New named option in Physics MS, “Quantum Computing” (Physics)
- New PhD minor, “Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies” (English)

Suspend admissions to:

- “International Politics and Practice”, capstone certificate (Political Science)
- “Geodesign”, capstone certificate (Planning and Landscape Architecture)
- Named option in Communication Arts BA/BS, “Radio-TV-Film/Communication Sci & Rhetorical Studies” (Communication Arts)
- *See the “Substantial Changes to L&S Departments/Academic Units” section for information about suspended admissions related to restructuring*

Discontinue

- “GIS,” capstone certificate (suspend and discontinue)

Other

- Change Philosophy MA to non-admit status

The council also considered, but did not approve, a request to create a new Data Science undergraduate major. Although members supported the need for such a program, they noted that the program should include broad participation by a wide array of departments and disciplines. The council therefore

charged the L&S deans to convene an interdisciplinary committee with representatives from several L&S departments, asking them to revise and resubmit the proposal. (The revised Notice of Intent to Offer a new Undergraduate major in Data Science was approved by the L&S APC on September 18, 2018.)

Requests for Comment, Consultation, or Support

L&S is frequently invited to comment on the development of programs and policies outside of L&S, at the college, campus or UW System level. The council offered comment on the following proposals:

Campus Policy or Guidelines Changes:

- Proposed Graduate School policy on annual assessment and evaluation of progress to degree

Notice of Intent:

- UW-Stout, request to create new Industrial and Applied Math MA
- UW-Milwaukee, request to create new Jewish Studies BA (online)
- UW-Oshkosh, request to create new Software Technology BS
- UW-Green Bay, request to create new Writing and Applied Arts BFA
- UW-Whitewater, request to offer in Communication MS online
- UW-Stout, request to create new Video Production BS
- UW-Superior, request to create new Writing BA
- UW-Platteville, request to create new Soil and Environmental Plant Sciences BS
- UW-Madison, Arts Institute, Request to change name from “Arts Institute” to “Arts Division”
- UW-Madison, CALS, request to change undergraduate program name from “Genetics” to “Genetics and Genomics”
- UW-Madison, CALS, request to create new Food Systems undergraduate certificate
- UW-Madison, School of Business, request to create new Business Analytics graduate certificate
- UW-Madison, School of Education, Discontinue Theatre & Drama doctoral minor
- UW-Madison, School of Education, request to create new Game Design undergraduate certificate
- UW-Madison, School of Education, request to create new Health Promotion and Health Equity BS
- UW-Madison, School of Human Ecology, request to new Community-Engaged Scholarship graduate certificate and PhD minor
- UW-Madison, College of Engineering, request to create new Computer Modeling and Simulation named option in Mechanical Engineering MS

Other Items

The APC approved several other items, including:

- Creation and recognition of the L&S “Leadership Council for World Languages, Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics” (WLLCL)
- Process and policy for the newly created Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership
- Allowing L&S students to declare “Additional Majors” outside L&S (first programs are Education Studies and Theatre and Drama)
- Change of the iSchool Department of Education Classification of Instruction Program Code from CIP 25.010 “Library and Information Science” to CIP 11.0401, “Information Studies”
- Creation of an L&S UDDS code for Environmental Sciences BA/BS/AMAJ academic structure

Substantial Changes to L&S Departments/Academic Units

The L&S APC discussed restructuring one L&S department, as well as several proposals arising from restructuring completed in previous years.

Restructuring academic departments:

- Plan to Restructure: Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies

Program actions resulting from Department Restructuring:

Planning and Landscape Architecture (Restructuring was approved in 2016-2017)

- Move Bachelor of Science Landscape Architecture from CALS to L&S and rename (this includes suspending admissions to the existing CALS program, creating a teach-out plan for CALS students and creating a new “Bachelor of Landscape Architecture” in L&S)
- Move undergraduate major Landscape Architecture from CALS to L&S (admissions has been suspended to the CALS major; the documents to create the major in L&S will be submitted to the L&S APC in 2018-2019.)

Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies

- Suspend admissions to “Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies” undergraduate program BA/BS/AMAJ, MA (including the named options “Comparative Literature” and “Folklore Studies”) and PHD (including the named options “Comparative Literature” and “Folklore Studies”)
- Suspend admissions to “Comparative Literature” doctoral minor
- Suspend admissions to “Folklore Studies” doctoral minor
- Suspend admissions to “Folklore” undergraduate certificate

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