

**College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council** (*for consideration Fall 2013*)

Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

101 South Hall (Dean's Conference Room)

Chair: Gary Sandefur

Members present: Harry Brighthouse, Diane Gooding, John Hawks, Clark Johnson, Maria Muniagurria, Jennifer Noyes, Matt Turner, Tom Broman

Observers: Marianne Bird-Bear, Susan Ellis-Weismer, Maria Cancian, Gery Essenmacher, Anne Gunther, Elaine Klein, Lucy Mathiak, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Eric Wilcots, DeVon Wilson, Sue Zaeske, Kimbrin Cornelius

Guests: Ann Archbold, Theatre & Drama, and John Stevens, School of Music (for COA discussion)

Absent: Tom Givnish

Announcements. GS had several announcements, including (1) Finalists for the position of Dean of L&S have been announced, (2) A reminder about the APC dinner on May 21; and (3) Professor Levine has resigned her seat on the council. A ballot will be circulated to all L&S faculty to elect representatives for two Arts and Humanities terms beginning Fall 2013.

1. Notes from April 2, 2013 and April 16, 2013 were approved by members present at those meetings.
2. Request for Comment. (a) UW-Madison received a "Notice of Intent" to create a new Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice at UW-Stout; the document was shared with the faculty of the the Legal Studies program, which advised us that they have no concerns. Members voted to forward that comment to the Provost as the L&S response.
3. Academic Program Review. (a) Update: Medieval Studies. SZ led discussion, reporting that she met with Professor Shoemaker to discuss concerns regarding support and resources. For now, History department will support the certificate, and resources to support the program will be reallocated from English (the program's previous home) to History. Longer-term support, and a different departmental home, is being considered. Professor Shoemaker also met with Elaine Klein to discuss assessment plans and reporting. (b) Celtic Studies Certificate Program. SZ led discussion, reviewing the report. The main issues identified in the report are related to a perceived lack of visibility and accessibility to students. The program would like to seek permission to have a subject listing to help students find courses; however, maintaining such a listing has resource implications and would require a stable departmental home. NWJ noted a campus-wide discussion regarding visibility issues is being discussed, one proposed solution is 'tagging' courses could then be searchable by themes. Council members also inquired about the ability of students to complete 12 of 18 required credits while abroad, and noted that most students in the program take 9-12 credits abroad. The course array on campus seems limited, and members wonder if it was large enough to accommodate students who do not have the resources to study abroad. At the same time, they expressed surprise that students can and that many do complete two-thirds of the requirements off campus. SZ will share these questions with the program and report back to the council next Fall. (c) Institute for Biology Education Review. EW led discussion of the review committee report. He noted the administration of the majors and the introductory Biology courses in IBE have been moved to other academic units in CALS and L&S. In this context, the main recommendations in the review are that IBE focus on professional development and innovation in teaching in the Biology field, maintain responsibilities in BioCommons, and maintain efforts in K-12 Biology education. The review also recommends that IBE expand from a focus on biology to include other natural sciences. Other recommendations in the review include: that advisors move to Bacteriology and the Office of Advising, and that the Director be a tenured faculty member. The review committee did not consider the budgetary impact of these recommendations; EW noted that IBE does not currently have the resources to pursue the recommended course the review suggests. Members

indicated concern that the target audience for IBE's services isn't clear, and wondered how IBE would align with other efforts on campus to improve teaching in the science so that efforts aren't duplicated. Members noted that IBE's has been to bring in external funding to support teaching in Biology.

4. Academic Program Actions. (a). Molecular Biology: Request to relocate from Institute for Biology Education (IBE) to Department of Zoology. EW led discussion. This proposal is part of the effort to relocate the administration of all majors in IBE to academic departments in L&S and CALS. The Zoology department most closely aligns with Molecular Biology in research, faculty interests, and has the infrastructure to support the undergraduates. The proposal notes that sufficient advising support would be needed, since that cannot be covered by current staff. EW indicated that the college was working to ensure that resources would be reallocated from IBE to the college for this purpose. Motion to approve the request to relocate from Institute for Biology Education to Department of Zoology was approved unanimously. (b). SLIS Specialist Certificate: Request for non-admitting status for Advanced Studies Specialists Certificate. MC led discussion. Though this program does not fulfill the purpose for which it was originally intended, the certificate is conferred as a credential for PhD students who do not complete the doctoral program. While other programs use a MA or MS for this purpose, the MA-LIS cannot be used in this way because these students do not complete the requirements for that accredited program. Motion to approve requests for non-admitting status for Advanced Studies Specialists Certificate was approved unanimously.
5. Action Item: Proposed College of the Arts (COA). The University Committee (UC) asked the L&S APC to take action regarding creation of a COA. GS led discussion. In May 2012, the L&S APC voted to affirm the right of L&S faculty and staff to move into a new COA if they wished to do so; the L&S APC did not vote on a recommendation about the establishment of a COA. GS also reviewed prior departmental votes, and that Music had been asked by the UC to vote again. GS reported the results of the April 2013 School of Music vote. Although there is some uncertainty about whether L&S is or should be required to vote on a recommendation to create a new college, GS suggested that, in lieu of making a formal recommendation, the council is empowered to provide an expression of support or non-support, offer opinions on the matter, and share the perspective of the college and its faculty with Provost and University Committee. In discussion, members noted concerns with the current proposal and level of and variation in departmental support across the campus. In particular, members considered that some arts programs have indicated they would not move into a COA, without the School of Music; in addition, the polarized vote in Theatre and Drama suggests that it is not clear how many T&D faculty and staff would move. Council members agreed that without broader and more coherent support from the arts community on campus, the proposal does not align well with a key objective of creating a COA: unifying the arts on campus. Indeed, creating COA could further divide the arts programs, as could be the case with T&D. Committee members were also concerned that other avenues to meet the stated goals and to solve identified issues did not seem to have been explored. Citing the work undertaken between L&S and CALS to more effectively administer joint programs in the biological science, members wondered if similar effort might be made to identify and address issues affecting students in the arts. Finally, members were very concerned that the proposal and solutions offered did not seem to foreground the benefits to students, which should be the foundation of any discussion about creating new academic units. Three motions were unanimously approved:
  1. The L&S APC is not in favor of the establishment of the College of the Arts.
  2. The L&S APC values the existence and cultivation of the Arts within the college and campus, and encourages the collaboration between all of the Arts across the University community.
  3. The L&S APC affirms the right of faculty in Theatre & Drama to leave the college, should they wish to do so.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, L&S Admin