

College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council

Tuesday, February 4, 1:00-2:30 pm, 101 South Hall – *Approved 2/18/2014*

Brief Meeting Notes

Present at meeting

Chair: John Karl Scholz, Dean

L&S Members present: Harry Brighthouse, Jan Edwards, Clark Johnson, Anna Gemrich, John Hawks, Matt Turner, Betty Harwood, Jennifer Noyes, Diane Gooding, Tom Broman

L&S Observers present: Sue Zaeske, Kimbrin Cornelius, Anne Gunther, Maria

Cancian, Elaine Klein, Susan Ellis-Weismer, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Gery Essenmacher, DeVon Wilson

1. Announcements and Updates from the Dean: (1) John Hawks has launched his MOOC! (2) KS announced and celebrated recent L&S student faculty and awards .

2. Minutes. Minutes from the December 17, 2013 meeting were approved by members present at that meeting.

3. Old Business.

(a) Program Restructuring, Hebrew and Semitic Studies: Request to Close Undergraduate Major:

Hebrew. SZ led discussion. SZ briefly reviewed previous APC discussion and the context for the proposal -- the department was becoming increasingly small (three faculty), a program review was conducted, and the program determined to close itself. The undergraduate Hebrew major has two 'tracks.' The Biblical- Hebrew track has been closed. The Modern Hebrew track will move to a track in the Jewish Studies major, which will continue to allow current and new students the opportunity to study Hebrew and Semitic languages and studies. Committee members approved the motion to close the undergraduate Hebrew major, in the department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies

(b) Continuation of Previous Discussion: Integrated Liberal Studies (Certificate Program Review, Request for Restructuring). SZ led discussion, and noted the two documents circulated to APC members: a program review document, and a proposal to create a School of Integrated Liberal Studies. She provided a brief review of previous APC conversation, regarding relevance, enrollments, outside stakeholders, and the request to restructure. In conversation, committee members expressed appreciation for the complexity of the issues addressed by the review. Committee members unanimously approved a motion to accept the self study as completion of the mandated certificate program review. Council members appreciated the candid evaluation of the program, and agreed that there are matters that must be addressed. When considering the separately submitted request to engage in restructuring the program, council members agreed that restructuring is necessary; however, they unanimously rejected the structures proposed in the memo, and unanimously approved a motion to charge the dean to convene a review committee. Council members advised that this committee should be substantially comprised of faculty external to the program, with two ILS representatives. The council expressed the hope that a broader committee would bring new perspectives to issues raised by the program itself in this and in previous reviews. This committee will submit a report and recommendations about the future of ILS to the dean and council.

4. Program Review.

(a) Info Item: Status Report on Program Review. KS updated committee members that L&S program reviews are nearly up to date; EMK circulated an updated report.

(b) First Discussion: Review of the Academic Programs in Comm Arts. MC lead discussion. She reviewed that Comm Arts has four distinct areas, they are a large undergraduate service course and major provider for the college. Admissions requirements to the major includes three courses and a 3.0 GPA. The department also provides many general education courses, a new Digital Studies certificate, and a highly competitive PhD program. MC asked for guidance regarding which recommendations the APC would most like to see addressed (18 recommendations are outlined in the program review document), as well as guidance on the undergraduate GPA admission requirement. Regarding the recommendations, committee members agreed focus on writing skills was important. Committee members also agreed that the recommendation regarding production film/video course access was important (determining whether access is an issue, or communicating to students that access is limited). Members also agreed to take up discussion regarding the 3.0 GPA admission requirement at a future meeting. Committee members unanimously approved the motion to accept the program review report.

5. Academic Program Changes

(a) Department of Statistics. Guest, Brian Yandell, Professor and Chair, Statistics.

(i) Request to create new option in existing MS – Statistics, Option: Data Science. EW led discussion. He noted that students will be from the workforce or from Statistic's new VISP Program. The program is concentrated to two years or less, students are not eligible for TA or PAs. The resources generated by the program should be helpful to the department, especially in terms of funding other graduate students. In discussion, committee members wondered- How do you know the market is there? BY noted several studies, locally and nationally that have projected a high demand for Data Sciences, and pointed to a similar program at Northwestern that received more applicants than predicted. BY also noted the program has plans to transition to online courses in the future, which could draw even more students. Members noted no budget, and that without one, proposals are difficult to review. EW noted Statistics is currently working with L&S on a more detailed budget model, and that this program will be similar to the Computer Science EI model, which is expected to generate revenue. Committee members unanimously approved the motion to create new option in existing MS – Statistics, Option: Data Science, with the caveat that the final budget must indicate the program is revenue generating.

ii. Request to establish new cohort-model Visiting International Student Program in Statistics.

Committee members wondered – how will international student be integrated into the university and the program? BY noted that half of the current faculty and the students are Chinese, so the department is well versed with international students. NWJ also noted that Continuing Students division takes the lead on providing services to VISP students, that are coming from all over the world. Committee members also asked about English preparation, NWJ noted there are TOEFL admissions requirements for VISP students, which Division of Continuing Studies monitors. In conversation, committee members noted that when EI programs are initially created, other programs in the department may have more lecturer (staff) taught courses. This perhaps should be considered broadly in L&S, and as part of individual proposals. Committee members unanimously approved the motion to establish a new cohort-model Visiting International Student Program in Statistics

Meeting adjourned at 2:34.

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, Curriculum Administration Specialist