

**L&S APC Brief Notes – approved 2/7/2017**

December 20, 2016, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., 101 South Hall (Dean’s Conference Room)

L&S Chair: Karl Scholz

L&S Members present: Heather Allen, Daniel Kapust, Shirin Malekpour, Louise Mares, Marisa Otegui, Daniel Quint, Laura McClure

L&S Members absent: Clark Landis, Charles Fry

L&S Observers present: Greg Downey, Elaine Klein, James Montgomery, Susan Ellis Weismer, Sue Zaeske, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Eric Wilcots, Kimbrin Cornelius, Cal Bergman, Anne Gunther

**1. Announcements and Informational Items a. Updates on Prior APC Action.**

**2. Consent Agenda a. Approval of notes – December 6, 2016.** Approved by members who were present at the meeting.

**3. Action Items: a. Request to Create New Undergraduate Certificate Program in Political Economy, Philosophy, and Politics.** This program integrates advanced-level coursework across three departments (Political Science, Economics, and Philosophy) and culminates in a capstone course. The certificate will likely initially be small, but there is room for growth. DQ noted the Curriculum Committee supported the proposal, and though CC members discussed whether the certificate could increase students’ time to degree, they agreed that students interested in this area would be likely to have already taken the prerequisite courses, which are among the courses most frequently taken by first-year students. APC members noted the narrow list of courses that meet PEPP requirements, wondering about the impact on the program if courses are not available. DK responded that the carefully curated course list includes several frequently-taught courses to meet each requirement. Members approved the request to create a new undergraduate certificate program in Political Economy, Philosophy, and Politics (DK abstained).

**b. Request to Change Department/School Name: UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies.** *Guest: Kristin Eschenfelder, Director, SLIS.* KE explained that the new name reflects current naming conventions in the discipline, though this trend is now more than a decade old. In discussion, members asked KE to summarize concerns raised about the name change, e.g., that “Information School” might be considered overly broad (KE noted that we have other broadly named Schools, such as the School of Education; furthermore, the name is well-established within the iSchool consortium, and aligns with peer program names). Another concern raised was that removal of ‘library’ from the name could be considered dismissive of libraries or librarians (KE noted that the school’s work includes, but extends beyond libraries). KE indicated that the program name will not change and will continue to be accredited by the American Library Association. Members unanimously approved the request to change the School name from School of Library and Information Studies to the “Information School.”

**c. Request to Change Program Name: Undergraduate Certificate in LGBT Studies.** SZ noted the new name reflects a more inclusive approach to the field of study and the current curriculum at Madison, and that the name change is supported by faculty and students. Members unanimously approved the request to change the name of the undergraduate certificate in LGBT Studies to “LGBTQ+ Studies.”

**d. Asian Languages and Culture Request to Reorganize Subject Listings: i. Create new listing(s), “Asian Languages and Cultures” and “Asian Languages and Cultures: Languages.”** Unanimously approved.

**e. Requests to suspend admission to programs. i. History of Science: Undergraduate major, History of Science, Medicine and Technology (BA/BS MAJ 517) ii. History and History of Science: Undergraduate major, History and History of Science, Medicine and Technology (BA/BS MAJ 504).** The departments of History and of History of Science will merge, effective July 1, 2017, and as a result of this work, two undergraduate programs will be closed: History of Science, Medicine and Technology and History and History of Science. Members unanimously approved a motion to suspend admissions to the two

undergraduate majors, with the expectation that the united faculty will work together to develop a plan for these programs, moving forward.

**iii. Art History: Doctor of Philosophy, Option in Architectural History (PHD MAJ 090AH, “Architectural History”).** SZ led discussion. The Option faces several administrative challenges that have no easy solutions, and the department has determined that the program is no longer sustainable. Current students will be able to complete the program. SZ indicated that approval of suspending admissions and discontinuing the option will trigger the Provost’s offices at Milwaukee and Madison to discuss how to discontinue the MOU establishing the system for sharing courses and faculty which support the program, though the department hopes some of the benefits of the joint program could still continue. Members unanimously approved a motion to suspend admissions and discontinue the program, and asked the department to create a detailed teach-out plan.

**4. Academic Program Review: a. Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies** SZ led discussion, and provided a brief background for the review, noting that it was convened after the Theatre and Drama department moved to the School of Education; most of the faculty who focus on performance moved with the department, while faculty who conduct academic research and supervise doctoral studies in theater remained in L&S, with homes in several departments. The new program in Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies, housed in English, was created to replace the doctoral program in Theatre & Drama. This review was convened as a 2-year review of that program, to ensure that it is on-track. The review committee report highlighted issues of program identity (understandable, given recent history). The committee offered several concrete suggestions to address this issue. APC members asked about sustainability, faculty hiring, and program leadership. Members agreed that the program is excellent; challenges ahead will likely arise with retirements and making strong, integrated connections with a larger group of affiliated faculty. Members accepted the report as complete. While understanding that ITS is in a period of necessary and important rebuilding work, the APC advised the dean to conduct another review in five years to ensure continued progress. By that time, members hope see a stronger community, continued strengthening of faculty affiliate relationships, and improved quality of students and placements.

**b. Zoology: Graduate Programs.** KS noted that Zoology and Botany jointly reviewed their undergraduate programs several years ago, so only the graduate program was reviewed at this time. EW noted this is a vibrant, strong program. The faculty have thought carefully both about learning goals and assessment of the learning goals. Incoming students are matched directly to faculty who wish to take on an additional student, and committees of 5 faculty guide students on an individual path through courses and the program. There is therefore no single course or set of courses that all graduate students may take. In conversation, members agreed this is an excellent program. APC members agreed with the review committee that the department should consider what may be causing lower completion rates. They suggested that the department look at faculty governance roles and ensure equitable assignment of duties. Finally, members were concerned about the wide range of student experiences in this program, and while they understand that the range of research pursued by Zoology faculty may be too broad to establish a common curriculum or requirements, student milestones should be normalized. Finally, members expressed concern about the declining number of applications, and were concerned that the obsolete department name Zoology may be contributing to that. They again affirmed their full support of the name change, and again urged that the proposed department name be adopted. Members approved the motion to accept the report as complete.

Meeting adjourned at 2:29

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, L&S Admin