

BRIEF NOTES

L&S Academic Planning Council

Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., 55 Bascom Hall *approved October 15, 2019*

Chair: Eric Wilcots, Dean

Members present: Steve Kantrowitz, Jeanne Hamers, Kristi Slack, Cécile Ané, Jana Valeo, Sue Ridgely, Rebecca Dunn

Members absent: Kris Olds, Seth Blair

Observers present: Kristin Eschenfelder, Gloria Mari-Beffa, Tom Erikson, Elaine Klein, Greg Downey, Devon Wilson, James Montgomery, Kimbrin Cornelius, Jennifer Noyes, Anne Gunther, Sue Zaeske, Shirin Malekpour

1. Announcements. EW provided announcements: Successworks Rocks! Is hosting a concert on Thursday, September 10; the proposal to create the new Data Science Undergraduate Major will be considered by the Board of Regents next week; Congratulations to our L&S colleague, Andrea Dutton (Geoscience) and our School of Education colleague, Linda Barry (Art) for winning the prestigious MacArthur foundation “genius award” Fellowships; early grades are due, please help spread the word.

2. Consent Agenda (a) Approval of notes – 17 September 2019 (b) Request for Comment (i) UW-Oshkosh, Notice of Intent to Offer BA/BS Advertising (ii) UW-Madison, WSOB Request for Authorization to Implement, MS-OTM Named Option “Business Analytics” (update) (c) Subject Listing Discontinuation: University Forum (d) Program Discontinuation: Graduate Minor, Freshwater and Marine Sciences (e) Graduate School Technical Change (summary): (i) MS-Economics, New Named Option “Economics” (existing Named Option is “Graduate Foundations”) (ii.) MS-Physics, New Named Option “Research” (existing Named Option is “Quantum Computing”) (iii.) MS-Cartography and GIS New Named Option, “Thesis” (existing Named Options are “Accelerated/Non-Thesis” and “GIS Development”) (iv.) MA-Mathematics, New Named Option, “Foundations for Research” (existing Named Option is “Foundations of Advanced Studies”) (vi) MA-French Studies New Named Option, “Full-Time Academic” (existing Named Option, “French Studies Summer Institute”) (vii) MS-Statistics New Named Option “Statistics” (existing Named Options, “Data Science” and “Biostatistics”). Members approved the consent agenda.

3. Academic Program Restructuring: Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies (update and discussion) *Guests (Comparative Literature Planning Committee): Ernesto Livorni, Professor and Department Chair; Sarah Wells, Associate Professor, Department of English; Guillermina de Ferrari, Professor, Department of Spanish & Portuguese.* SZ led discussion. She reminded members that the Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies department has been in a long-term process of restructuring. Most recently, the Folklore Studies component of the department moved to German, Nordic, Slavic; similarly, the Comparative Literature faculty are in the process of re-envisioning that disciplines’ future at UW-Madison. SZ had asked EL, GF, and SW to serve as a small working group to suggest possibilities for a new structure, submitted via memo to the Dean and Council. Their intent was to consider how current faculty and staff could sustain the interdisciplinary work that is integral to this discipline. The memo proposes to create a department-like program that could house a Comparative Literature program as well as several other (not yet approved) interdisciplinary programs. In conversation, APC members asked about the proposal to have 25% of the budget line for core faculty in the newly organized program. EL noted he anticipated a lot of faculty interest in this if the program size increases, especially since faculty may be able to teach courses outside the traditional curriculum for their home department. SW noted the requirements for an undergraduate program would need to be re-envisioned: under the current program requirements, students had difficulty meeting the substantial language requirements. A new program with a more modern approach should attract more students. In addition, faculty could create new courses to appeal to more undergraduates and teach the skills of comparative study. In conversation, APC members expressed appreciation

for the work undertaken to envision a new future of comparative literature on campus and encouraged that discussion to continue.

Council members expressed concern about the administrative structure discussed in the document, and were skeptical about whether it would be approved. They noted that it was unclear how the structure would address program and course enrollments, and would require investment of considerable resources, most of which would be transferred from other departments. EMK reminded members that admissions to the existing programs have been closed for 3 years and that the Provost and UAPC had requested a plan to discontinue or restructure and reopen the programs. Because the proposal did not address restructuring and continuation of the existing programs, CLFS faculty were asked formally to take action to close them, with the understanding that new programs could be proposed in the future. APC members noted that to address the challenges ahead (growing faculty and student interest across programs, creating and offering new courses that draw in new students, creating new programs, creating a strong governance process and executive committee) strong administrative expertise and support is essential. They advised the dean to encourage the faculty to continue considering models that would require limited new resources but which could also provide expert administrative support required to achieve the goal of revitalizing interest and participation in this field across campus. More specifically, members recommended that this kind of administrative expertise is most likely found in an existing L&S academic department that has a strong administrative core, and that new programming could be “seeded” with development of a certificate program in comparative studies.

4. Request to Create New Program: Gender and Women’s Studies, Doctor of Philosophy.

Guest: Janet Hyde, Psychology and Gender & Women’s Studies JH noted the number of PhD programs across the country is rising. Thanks to some cluster hires and additional rebuilding after budget cuts, the department is at a size and interest level to create such a program. The department is hosting a series of PhD curriculum workshops so faculty will be ready assuming the program is approved. In conversations members asked about student funding. JH noted they do not anticipate difficulties providing a 5-year guarantee for students, with funding from fellowships, grants, at outside departments. If the proposal is approved, the department will no longer offer an admitting masters program. Members approved the proposal of intent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, Curricular Administrative Specialist