

Brief Notes – approved 3/2/2021

College of Letters & Science Academic Planning Council

February 18, 2021, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (virtual meeting)

Chair: Dean Eric Wilcots

Members present: Stephen Gammie, Rebecca Dunn, Louise Mares, Charo D’Etcheverry, Nancy Marshall, Jeanne Hamers, Kris Olds, Sue Ridgely, Rebecca Forbes Wank

Members absent: Cecile Ane

Observers present: Sue Zaeske, Elaine Klein, Greg Downey, Kimbrin Cornelius, Kristin Eschenfelder, Tina Nielsen, James Montgomery, DeVon Wilson, Shirin Malekpour. Gloria Mari-Beffa, Cal Bergman

1. Announcements/ Updates/Reminders: **(a) Update on L&S BLS+MASS proposal.** Campus has circulated for comment the Notice of Intent to create a new L&S online-only degree. Some concerns have been expressed by UW-Stout about overlap with degree name, we have an upcoming meeting with them and anticipate that we can resolve and alleviate their concerns. **(b) Update on discontinuation of CALS MS-Biometry** <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=611> CALS has approved a proposal to discontinue it; if L&S faculty should propose a program to replace it, that proposal would come through this body. **(c) Upcoming L&S Senate Meeting: Monday, March 8, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** EW noted that the meeting will be rescheduled.

2. Consent agenda **(a) Approval of notes, February 2, 2021 (b) Request for comment (i) UW System (1) UW-Green Bay, Proposed Master of Public Administration (2) UW-Oshkosh, Bachelor of Professional Studies.** Members approved the consent agenda.

3. Academic Program Matters **(a) For Comment: Graduate Faculty Executive Committee Agenda Item of Note: Doctoral Breadth Policy** ([BreadthPolicyProposal.pdf](#)). Members supported the policy change. Graduate certificates are more commonly known in graduate education, and more options for graduate students is a good thing. **(b) Request to Create New Programs (i) Statistics (Data Science Program Committee): Undergraduate Certificate in Data Science.** <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=1104> KE noted that the Data Science undergraduate major was successfully launched last fall, and this 16-credit certificate is now being proposed for those students who would benefit from data science skills, but don’t want or wish to complete the full major. There was broad consultation with other departments, and elective courses from many departments are included. SR noted that the L&S Curriculum Committee was very supportive of the proposal. Members unanimously approved the request to create the certificate. **(ii.) LaFollette School of Public Affairs: Undergraduate Certificate in Health Policy** <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=1190> GD noted this certificate will give students the opportunity to study a focused interest in Health Policy. It complements emergence of several programs in the health area (Global Health, Health Promotion & Health Equity), but provides its own focus and does not overlap with the other programs. This is the second undergraduate certificate LaFollette will administer, to reflect increasing interest of undergraduates in public policy issues (and their increasing interest in serving undergraduates). SR reported that the L&S Curriculum Committee was very supportive of the certificate; they provided some feedback which the department quickly incorporated into their proposal. Members unanimously approved the request to create the certificate. **(c) Request to Rename Programs: Integrative Biology (i) GMIN995) Doctoral Minor, from “Zoology” to “Integrative Biology”**

[guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=495](https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=495) (ii.) (MS 995L&S) Master of Science, *from “Zoology” to “Integrative Biology”* <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=686> (iii.) (PHD 995L&S) Doctoral degree, *from “Zoology” to “Integrative Biology”* <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=822>.

The proposed name changes reflect the recent name change of the department, from Zoology to Integrative Biology. Members were pleased to approve the changes to the name (SG abstained).

Discussion: (1) Consultations of the Dean (a) APC in Fall 2021 (Virtual or in-person) Members agreed that in-person meetings would be preferred, especially in the fall. But they agreed that the flexibility to shift to online is very helpful (especially in winter months or with inclement weather).

(b) Academic Program Review: Proposed Change in Discussion Process (Graduate Program Reviews). Program reviews are discussed by L&S, UAPC, and, when they are graduate programs, the Graduate Faculty Executive Committee. In particular, EW asked for feedback on whether GFEC should discuss program review before or after L&S APC. Currently, there can be significant delays between committee discussions, and it can be surprising for departments if they receive substantive feedback or requests for more information from GFEC well after L&S accepted the report as complete. In discussion, members noted that scheduling issues and different foci of the governance committees will likely continue regardless of which committee reviews it first. Clearer upfront communication to departments about the GFEC template and expectations might help departments provide more of the information GFEC expects. Members also noted the L&S APC has the benefit of having reviews presented by the department’s Academic Associate Dean; they’re likely to have a great deal of context and background information to share with the committee when members have questions.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, L&S Teaching and Learning Administration