

## **BRIEF NOTES - approved 4/19/2022**

College of Letters & Science Academic Planning Council

April 5, 2022, 1:00-2:30 p.m., 52 Bascom Hall

Chair: Greg Downey

Members: Andrea Arpaci-Dusseau, William Cox, Charo D'Etcheverry, Rebecca Forbes-Wank, Stephen Gammie, Eric Grodsky, Jeanne Hamers, Lori Kido-Lopez, Nancy Rose Marshall, Jeremy Morris, Kris Olds, Christy Tremonti

Observers: Cal Bergman, Kimbrin Cornelius, Elaine Klein, Shirin Malekpour, James Montgomery, Tina Nielsen, Sue Zaeske

**1. Announcements and Updates: (a) Recent UAPC approvals; (b) UAPC Policy on Digital Badges - [UAPC Doc 20220324.016 pdf](#); (c) Program discontinuation: Grad Certificate in Public Humanities** GD noted efforts to find a new administrative home for the certificate were unsuccessful. Public Humanities efforts continue to be strong via other avenues. Unfortunately, no department (which would have ample experience administering a program and resources to do so) could be identified, the certificate will be closed.

**2. Consent agenda (a) Approval of notes – March 1,2022; (b) Academic Program Change: Mead-Witter School of Music, Discontinuation of Unused “Pre-Major” Program Codes (i) See: <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/miscadmin/?key=128>** Members approved the consent agenda.

**3. Academic Program Review (a) Department of German, Nordic, Slavic+: Review of Undergraduate Certificate in East Central European Languages, Literatures and Cultures** SZ led discussion. This certificate was created in 2016 in response to student requests to create certificates in language. After retirements of both faculty and staff, as well as the department merger, the department concluded they should take a different approach aligns with expertise of current faculty and staff, and also be more sustainable. They plan to close the certificate and instead create a certificate in Slavic Studies. This will highlight the areas of several new hires, and the department plans to design a curriculum will use the ‘culture’ aspect of the discipline as a gateway into the language, rather than the other way around. Members approved the report as complete.

**4. Other Actions (a) Department of English: Proposal to Establish a New Center for Teaching and Research on Writing (CTRW) (First Reading)** SZ led discussion. She noted that after the retirement of a long-time director of the Writing Center, there has been some thinking about how best to have leadership in the Writing Center and Writing Across the Curriculum. The proposal for this center is intended to highlight and grow focus on research in writing, as well as support writing communities and resources. It would be housed in the English department, and would oversee ENGL 100 and 201, ESL, Writing Center, Writing Across the Curriculum, and Great Madison Writing Project. The resulting ‘hub’ would hopefully draw more research activity, funding, and visibility both on the campus and externally. Some points of committee discussion included:

- Members wished for more information about the funding necessary for the center to be successful. What is the budget for this center? Are new resources required for its success, and where will those come from? What body has control of it (the English executive committee?) Will the department reallocate existing resources towards this?
- Related to the budget questions, members had questions about how the English department may also align their priorities with the center. For example, do they plan to hire faculty with a focus in research in writing?
- More information would be helpful about the dotted line of reporting structure to the dean, especially what types of information may be discussed with the Dean (likely around the mission and service to campus) versus the chair of English. It would be helpful to clarify the center’s budget and other key

governance decisions will flow through the English department.

- Members wondered about the role of ESL in the center and noted that some of the information included in the proposal seemed outside their core scope and mission. Their central role could be better described in the proposal.

Members were largely supportive of the proposal, however they wished to have more clarity around budget, resources, and how the ideas here align with priorities of the department given that it appears some redistribution of English department resources will be required to make this work.

**5. Discussion: Consultations of the Dean: Request for Comment on Proposed changes to Policy on Academic Program Review (i) For reference: Campus Policy, Program Review Guidelines**

<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1058> L&S Program Review Policy - <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/24812>

EMK led discussion. As part of the work to populate a new campus policy library, APIR revisited program review to better distinguish policy, procedures and practices. This new policy is better articulated and also includes resources, such as self-study templates review, report templates, and links to campus data resources. Members noted that these resources are much improved and should help better support departments doing these reviews. They noted They also suggested exemplars could be helpful on request, perhaps models of specific sections. The Council asked EMK to convey this feedback to APIR.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, Assistant Dean for L&S Teaching & Learning