

Brief Notes - approved 2/7/2023

College of Letters & Science Academic Planning Council

January 17, 2023, 1:00-2:30 pm, 52 Bascom Hall

Chair: Eric Wilcots

Members: Catherine Auger, Sridhara Dasu, Isa Dolski, Stephen Gammie, Peter Haney, Nancy Rose Marshall, Jeremy Morris, Kristen Shook Slack

Members Absent: Andrea Arpac-Dusseau, Charo D'Etcheverry, Lori Lopez, Kris Olds

Observers: Cal Bergman, Greg Downey, Kim Grocholski, Elaine Klein, Kristin Eschenfelder, Sue Zaeske, Jennifer Klippel, Ruth Litovsky, Shirin Malekpour, Tina Nielsen, DeVon Wilson

1. Announcements/Information: A full time Associate Dean for Research Services was hired and the College will soon launch the search for the Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities. SM gave an overview of the launch of [The L&S Exchange](#), which focuses on high-value ideas in teaching and learning and includes a podcast. Other updates and concerns related to technology were discussed including TikTok, the increased presence of chatbots and AI, and DoIT cybersecurity initiatives. The College has also circulated [a request for feedback on the draft Guiding Principles for Undergraduate Education in L&S](#).

2. Consent Agenda a. Approval of notes – December 20, 2022 b. Request for Comment: Institute name change: from “Women in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute” to “University of Wisconsin-Madison Inclusion in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute.”
Members approved the consent agenda.

3. Academic Program Actions, requests to change names: a. American Indian Studies program requests to change the name of the undergraduate certificate and unit. i. Program name change from “Certificate in American Indian Studies” to “Certificate in American Indian & Indigenous Studies” Lumen proposal: <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=158> ii. Unit name change from “American Indian Studies” to “American Indian & Indigenous Studies” Lumen proposal: <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/miscadmin/?key=158>
GD discussed the proposed changes. These changes will align with best practices across the field and at other universities. Faculty affiliates, the program faculty executive committee, and students in the program, have all approved the change. Members approved the name changes to the unit and the certificate.

B. Program name changes in the Department African American Studies. i. From BA “Afro-American Studies” to “African American Studies” <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=67> ii. From undergraduate “Certificate in Afro-American Studies” to “Certificate in African American Studies” <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=157> iii. From MA “Afro-American Studies” to “African American Studies” <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=526> iv. From GMIN “Afro-American Studies” to “African American Studies” <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=358>

GD introduced the name change and confirmed the subject listing is not being changed. Members approved the name changes to all four programs.

The committee then discussed item 4b before addressing 4a.

4. Academic Program Review a. Department of Spanish and Portuguese: Undergraduate Certificate in Spanish Studies for Business Students (CERT365) SZ led the discussion and pointed out several issues: the brief report does not address questions asked in the charge memo (including focused questions on DEI issues) and learning outcomes for the program exist but assessment procedures are not aligned with those learning outcomes or the program audience. Questions were raised as to why students in the WSOB may earn the certificate but L&S students interested in business do not have this option. Members asked additional questions, noting that the lack of detailed data and information made it difficult to conduct a review. They were curious about the availability of a general Spanish certificate, whether having such a program could affect the number of majors or enrollment in upper level classes, if such credentials certify language proficiency, and how certificates can be designed to require advanced coursework.

Members advised the dean that the department should revisit the original charge and respond thoroughly to all questions asked. Furthermore, the department should give special consideration in the response to learning outcomes, issues surrounding DEI and belonging, recommendations for the future, thoughts on expanding the certificate so all students are eligible, and how they are connecting with heritage speakers in the community. When this review is complete, the College may initiate further conversations about Spanish language instruction.

Members voted unanimously to have the self-study returned to the department with a request to revise and resubmit, due May 15, 2023.

b. MS-Cartography and Geographic Systems Named Option “GIS Development” (GIS DEV) GD led the discussion and gave an overview of the program, which exists as one of an array of MS programs in Geography. The GIS Development MS is a professional, revenue generating program for professionals working in the field. The program is healthy and generating revenue and is highly regarded. This was one of the first programs of its type and while there has been some enrollment decline as competition has grown, the program is committed to increasing enrollment. The program has worked to address leadership changes; the new faculty director has helped the program be more integrated in the department. The detailed self-study to be thorough and thoughtful, with recommendations for improvement.

Members asked about the impact of enrollment on the department and other programs offered; GD confirmed that the program hasn't impacted the department's traditional degree programs. Members also asked about the tuition model and JK discussed tuition model trends for revenue generating programs. Members approved a motion to accept the review as complete.

Discussion:

5. Consultations of the Dean

SM reported that the Teaching and Learning Administration's Instructional Design Collaborative is building a page around inclusive practice around teaching, and asked APC members if they would participate in providing feedback and information for the group.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by Kim Grocholski, Academic Planner.