



UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN COLORADO

Liberal Arts Council Meeting
CC 2201
February 20th, 2024 3:30-5:00p.m.
Minutes

Present: H. Muller, T. Wood, C. Bebee, T. Smith, B. Casey, N. Matchett, M. Fryer, M. Heiny, N. Geisendorfer, A. Steele, J. Cherico, L. Amour, M. McKeown Kelley, C. McClatchey,
Online: C. McMahan, M. Berg, M. Houston, R. Dineen, D. Staton, K. Records
Absent: J. Elkins

Call to Order 3:35pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objection.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting (02/06/2024) approved without objection

Reports

- Chair's report (Muller)
 - Next Week the following will be on the agenda.
 - HIST 114 and 115 updating IS/MS criteria.
 - IS/MS finalizing review.
 - ENG 205 and 262 (left the grandfathered with exception would revise soon)
 - HLH has reviewed.
 - IS/MS finalizing review.
 - Still working on getting remaining syllabi from HSS, NHS, and ASL
 - Margaret will continue to upload the into the CCC folders as we get them.
 - We do not yet have all WCWL syllabi – missing initial review ASL (2), re-reviewed SCI (2)
 - were to report on 3/7 – agenda item, alternate dates?
- Standing Reports
 - GE Council (Matchett)
 - CDHE plans to conduct student focus groups related to the Gen Ed Credential Framework. Council identified potential value allows packaging of AAS/AA/AB degrees into Gen Ed + Discipline coursework; provides an “intermediate steppingstone” to strengthen motivation on way to bachelor's degree; provides *possible* recognition for students who fail to complete full bachelors. The council also highlighted significant obstacles: no institution would grant prior to graduation with an associate/bachelor's degree due to lack of standalone financial aid eligibility. It's possible a “badge” (not transcribed) would get around this.
 - The COM course proposed for GT-AH1 was denied; encouraged to pursue other categories.

- Discussion of ways to include first year foreign language instruction in the gtP continues. CDHE is convening a virtual meeting of 2- and 4-year faculty to consider options/possibly bring a proposal for light revisions to the gtP framework to the council.
- Fac-to Fac Conference on March 8th is devoted to micro-credentialing. In-person attendance is closed (due to venue capacity) but the morning sessions will be available for remote participation. All college deans have the link or email Nancy if you want more info.
- New gtPathways Courses (will be approved unless a GE rep raises objections):

Fort Lewis College

- GT-AH1: ART 228 Introduction to Visual Culture (3)
- GT-AH1: HON 210 Landscapes of Learning (3)
- GT-HI1: NAIS 202 History of Native American Education (3)
- GT-SS3: AE 105 Spirit of Adventure (3)

Metropolitan State University of Denver

- GT-CO3: ENG 2020 Reading and Writing Popular Culture (3)
- GT-HI1: HIS 1032 Islam in History: From the Prophet to the Present (3)
- GT-SS3: PUB 1000 Principles of Public Health (3)

○ AVP of Undergraduate Studies (Matchett)

- Academic Affairs has been working to clarify understanding of Extended Campus. In a nutshell,

Extended Campus exists to expand access to UNC programs for non-traditional learners seeking to continue their education. It achieves this by assisting academic units offering self-supported programming in different modalities, formats, and locations.

The plan is to develop a FAQ list which will be distributed through college deans soon. EC operations are relevant to the Council due to the need to ensure LAC courses are available to students in self-supporting bachelor's degree programs.

- UNC has recently re-joined the AASCU's American Democracy Project (no extra cost beyond existing AASCU membership), a network of institutions committed to ensuring civic learning and democratic engagement are an expectation for every college student. I am eager to hear from LAC members and other faculty members about how we might leverage the resources and professional development opportunities. Anyone may attend their "Practicing Democracy" workshops going on right now.
- Three groups are working to clarify curriculum policies and processes: APC/UGC working on improvements to U Regs and credit hour expectations for types of programs; data governance working on clarifying standards for various codes (e.g. major degree program vs. concentration, course prefixing); and an ad hoc group of mostly CCC chairs is working on ways to streamline the technical aspects of the workflow.
 - Thank you, Chris McMahan, for attending African courses discussion, it was decided that it will stay social sciences.

- We encourage all faculty and staff to attend the Fireside Chats with President Feinstein and Provost Fleming.
- Curriculum Category Committee Reports
 - Written Communication & World Languages (Wood) – no report
 - History, Literature & Humanities (Smith) – have reviewed ENG 205 and ENG 262
 - Philosophy & the Arts (Casey) – CS 209, recommend for inclusion, under new business
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences (McMahan) – no report
 - Mathematics & Natural Sciences (Steele) – no report
 - International & Multicultural Studies (Muller) – working on courses in Chairs Report.
- Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - Assessment & Curriculum (Muller) – no report
 - Update from Director of Assessment (Bebee): – no report
 - Outreach & Communications (chair TBD)

Unfinished Business

- LAC Transfer Course Criteria for Registrar
 - After discussion the registrar will be able to have examples in 4 weeks.
- Board Policy and Bylaws (Spring 2024 – future meeting)
- Finalize LAC-gtP alignment for all courses (Matchett ongoing)
- Mapping on Course Syllabi (ongoing)

New Business

- Course proposal - CS 209 – PTA CCC recommends approval
 - The question of “Is it okay that different departments do things that way” was asked based on the structure of the submitted CS 209 syllabus along with detailed mapping document.
 - Language on syllabus should be student friendly.
 - Muller has considered placing LAC mapping near the end of syllabus as okay.
 - Steele stated that she takes it from a student’s point of view when putting her syllabus together, and it did not include mapping but was available if interested.
 - Including language that detailed mapping is available.
 - Wood: It is important that we slow down and think about how we are approving syllabi.
 - Questions asked from Committee members:
 - “Would it make sense to include detailed mapping?”
 - It was felt that including detailed mapping may overwhelm students.
 - How hard would it be to include the detailed mapping?
 - The Math department has SLO’s with general objective that umbrella over course objectives, and with those course objectives they would be more course specific.
 - What about LAC objectives?
 - Okay to have them just included in the mapping or should they be listed along with other course objectives near the top of the syllabus?
 - We have not clearly required this, should we consider revising that?
 - Does it feel like there is a message we want to CCC to send to the unit?
 - Should add language that detailed course mapping available upon request.
 - After much discussion.

- Motion: Council should accept PVA CCC recommendation that CS 209 be accepted as a new course into Category gtP AH3/LAC LAA3.
 - Casey moves for approval.
 - Geisendorfer seconds the motion.
 - No further discussion. Motion approved unanimously.
- Indirect Syllabus Review and Re-Review Timeline for Spring 2024
 - WCWL CCC will present a review of all syllabi that are available at 3/5 meeting.
 - PTA CCC has all syllabi needed to complete review by 3/19 meeting.
 - Remaining schedule to be discussed at 3/5 meeting.
- Indirect Assessment - Student Survey
 - Questions about the objective of the student survey:
 - Are we going to ask students about LAC course experiences?
 - What do we want to learn from students?
 - What do we want to hear from students?
 - Pairing indirect assessment with direct assessment and other student measures.
 - Can we have the same questions for each LAC course or do we need different one's for courses in different categories?
 - Creating a question bank related to each category.
 - Alt approach, two binary questions to use for all courses.
 - Do you feel you gained?
 - How useful?
 - Wood suggested that instead of using SLO's, to use the 11 competencies.
 - Muller: this is like what the assessment sub-committee prepared and proposed during spring 2023.
 - Bebee provided NSSE Questions to review.
 - There are a few NSSE questions that will work for some competencies but there are not NSSE questions that will clearly work for all competencies.
 - The NSSE questions can be used as framework for questions,
 - Note related to NSSE survey that students are already asked to complete.
 - Determining where students took their General Education courses would be helpful and something that needs to be looked into.
 - Plan of Action
 - Dual approach of NSSE questions and Competency linked questions.
 - Who do we want to come up with the questions based on competencies?
 - The relevant CCC will construct those questions.
 - Bebee is happy to go into NSSE and pick out questions that would help CCC.
 - He will look for questions based on the competencies.
 - Timeline – Spring 2024.
 - Bebee will present NSSE relevant questions to council after spring break – 3/19 meeting.
 - Wood will work with Bebee on drafting questions based on the Written Communication category competency.
 - The goal is to have MCB pilot student indirect assessment survey in BA 205 in Spring 2024.
 - Once other CCC's receive question suggestions will determine if working on this can fit with remaining workload this semester.

- Discussion of Implementation
 - These questions will be added to the end of course student surveys.
 - Any LAC courses will have the questions added otherwise won't have them.
 - The process will be identical throughout schools.
- CDHE Guidance for Institutional General Education Microcredentials
- LAC Data from UNC Degree Planner Project

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment 5:00pm