

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

October 10, 2023 | 3:30pm

UC Council Room

MINUTES

Present: L. Henson, K. Clavir, M. Larson, B. Markowski, N. Matchett, C. Moore, E. Pepmeyer

Present via Zoom: P. Klein

Absent: B. Blair, C. Couch, V. Guetler, S. Rose, M. Somero, C. Sonnentag, M. Welsh

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:33pm.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without objection.

Approval of Minutes 9/12/2023

There is a motion to approve the 9/12/2023 UGC meeting minutes.

Markowski firsts, Moore seconds.

The motion passes.

The minutes were approved without objection.

Chair's Report/Announcements (Larson): APC is still working on an alternate schedule during finals week due to inclement weather. APC is talking about considering a change to the final exam schedule from a 5-day schedule to a 4-day schedule. APC is also discussing definitions for concentrations, certificates and minors, originating from the Provost's Office ([CWG](#)).

Reports from Councils

LAC (Matchett): There have been some new course proposals, and we continue to roll out the first round of direct assessments (pilot last year). We are deciding how broadly we want to give dashboard access on student learning outcome data.

Assessment Council (Markowski): Bebee has taken the Standards of Practice document brought to UGC last semester and presented it to the Graduate Council. Since receiving Graduate Council's support, he will take it to APC next. We are working on having conversations on assessment practices campus-wide and considering how our practices compare to HLC's best practices.

Special Reports

Unfinished Business

- Need Undergraduate Council volunteer to be the Liberal Arts Council (LAC) representative
 - LAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month in CC 2201 with a Zoom option
 - There were no volunteers.

New Business

- Schulze Chair appointment – Extend the term by one semester to align reappointment with Corrine Wieben’s faculty contract year schedule.
 - Matchett gave background on repurposing of foundation funds two years ago.
 - The academic year 2024-2025 would be a new process with a new term starting August 2025.
 - There is a motion to extend the Schulze Chair appointment term by one semester to align reappointment.
 - Moore firsts, Markowski seconds.
 - The motion passes by unanimous voice vote.
- Commencement Speaker Selection Process/Subcommittee – Update on process:
 - Thank you to the subcommittee for your quick response.
 - Moore included the Marketing link to students not selected to speak, but will consider opening this up to all applicants.
- Coursera overview/update on campus (Matchett):
 - Coursera online course/degree platform has approached MCB.
 - Coursera is fee based for universities, giving access to an entire catalog of online courses or more specific industry certifications.
 - MCB dean is interested and has presented the idea to the Dean’s Council (for undergraduate students).
 - The Provost would like “proof of concept” limited to MCB only.
 - There would need to be a long discussion surrounding the budget and broad impacts on undergraduate programs.
 - Benefits could be students obtaining an additional certificate while taking a course, i.e., MS Excel.
 - Other benefits may be Coursera offers micro credentials UNC does not offer, students able to meet pre-requisites faster, and students obtaining an industry certification.
 - Offering Coursera certifications &/or micro credentials could enhance UNC’s ability to recruit and retain students.
 - Coursera courses and/or micro credentials cannot be a replacement of UNC contact hours.
 - There is support for offering a cybersecurity certificate or a cybersecurity minor. and for testing a cybersecurity certification.
 - Chair Larson encouraged the committee to investigate Coursera.
- Definitions of concentrations, minors, certificates etc. across campus (Larson & Matchett):
 - There is an active conversation across campus about minor certificates, stemming from a working group two summers ago that looked at the approval process of new courses/programs. Other institutions provide clarification on credit hours, what the differences are between a certificate and a minor, etc.
 - The committee reviewed and discussed the [CWG Appendix A](#) document.
 - Currently, there is not much guidance on how many credit hours are required for a certificate, concentration or micro credential.
 - Other institutions require 12-18 credits for a certificate; 9-15 credits were recommended by UNC’s working group.

- Chair Larson encouraged the committee to get some insight on options and examples and revisit at next UGC meeting.

Comments to the Good of the Order: None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm.