

2024 UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Sept 10, 2024 | 3:30pm

UC Council Room

MINUTES

Present: Clavir, Couch, Larson, Matchett, Markowski, Moore, Sedinger, Sonnentag

Larson, Markowski, Ken, Couch, Matchett, Moore, Tracey, Colleen

Zoom: du Bray, Muralimanohar

Absent: Gottlieb, Guetler, Zimmerman,

Call to Order 3:37pm

Approval of Agenda approved without objection

Approval of Minutes from April 9, 2024, approved with the changes to Matchett's LAC report

Chair's Report/Announcements (Larson)

The Academic Policies Committee (APC) is developing an understanding of what may be happening with micro-credentials. They have not yet reached out to UGC yet but is expected to in the future. Additionally, with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation visit is scheduled for October, faculty should expect to receive invitations soon. It is encouraged that members and faculty actively participate by attending focus groups or sessions during the visit.

Reports from Councils

LAC (Matchett) – The Liberal Arts Council (LAC) held its first meeting; no immediate business was addressed. Discussions included foundational credentials, and LAC memos were distributed. The committee also sent out indirect results and continues to work on them. They have completed two rounds of syllabus reviews. Both the Curriculum Core Committee (CCC) and LAC currently have vacancies that need to be filled.

Assessment Council (Sonnentag) – Assessment Council met yesterday for the first time this year. They recapped on last year and discussed plans for this year.

Special Reports

New Business

- Badges/Micro-credentials
 - Few members have heard about micro-credentials, and few have not heard about it
 - NHS has started discussions about micro-credentials
 - Within Academic Affairs
 - There has been a conversation about whether the university should design and offer credentials smaller than a certificate.
 - Discussions are underway about investing in a badging tool to facilitate how these micro-credentials are delivered.
 - Deans have a working group drafting a proposal encouraging the campus to develop a policy to design, deliver, and investing in badges
 - What are badges? Are they physical badges?
 - They are digital badges, that will provide information about the credentials earned.
 - How would someone outside of UNC access this?

- Badge recipients can display their digital badges on platforms like LinkedIn, showcasing it as an official document of their credential.
 - There is more focus on academic micro-credentials but there are non-academic micro-credentials that exist.
 - A policy would need to be created in order to move forward and find reasons to why we should award these.
 - Questions to consider:
 - What make a badge meaningful enough to award?
 - What distinguishes a badge from a certificate?
 - There are conversations in MCB about the use of Coursera (content delivery platform)
 - Coursera is a platform being used by University of Texas system
 - Discussions include using foundation funds to enter partnership with Coursera
 - If adopted the idea is to make certain number of Coursera licenses/courses available to MCB students for free
 - A potential disadvantage is they will have access to a library of micro-credentials that will directly compete with those we may have
 - An advantage is the students will have access to resources/course UNC may not have
 - Is it possible to browse Coursera?
 - You can browse the Coursera site
 - Can you limit what students have access to?
 - That is discussion MCB is exploring and understand Coursera.
 - Matchett informed the council that there is a statewide push related to gTP pathways encouraging of all public institution to award a foundational skill credential
- Review of UGC Responsibilities (see page 111 of board policy here: [board policy manual](#))
 - The term for the Schulze Chair will end on June 30th, the current chair, Corrine Wieben is interested in continuing her role as chair based on the process which ever that may be.
 - Matchett is willing to create an announcement to the faculty informing them about this opportunity if they are interested or would like to provide feedback about the current chair.
 - It was proposed that a potential letter that will go to interdisciplinary committees informing them of the chair's performance/service would be helpful
 - Currently there is no letter or evaluation criteria for chair service, Matchett can draft a proposal by November meeting.
 - Lee will create a folder about Shulze information in the UGC Teams folder.
 - Larson suggests reviewing the Board Policy Manual to determine what UGC wants to accomplish this year and return with any questions.
 - Items to consider:
 - Receiving insight from schools and offices
 - Ways to be more productive
 - What questions may my unit have?
 - What is going on at the undergraduate level?
 - What can UGC do to serve the university?

- Members may want to take the UGC Responsibilities to colleges to receive any feedback or questions they may have.

Unfinished Business

- AI Policy for UNC Campus
- UGC rep for LAC & Assessment Council
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Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment 5:02pm