

Winthrop University—Academic Council

Friday, September 25, 2020, 2:00pm

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Recordings available at these links:

AC 09-25-2020 video:

<https://winthropu.sharepoint.com/:v:/s/AcademicCouncil/Ec01rZYWYehKhtZIU73ICf4BiLfK5zEV6d49IdQqGNHb-w?e=4AaNkP>

AC 09-25-2020 audio only:

<https://winthropu.sharepoint.com/:u:/s/AcademicCouncil/EdVDWFPMLINBszKURh-ZRsAB7dvwaZ1X7NbSDs3SSKtLzA?e=ICLvb0>

AC 09-25-2020 chat

only: <https://winthropu.sharepoint.com/:t:/s/AcademicCouncil/EWKtclZGYD9IrRyAX3JHMDIBuZxeuF9kPZ8N2XHfxKabWQ?e=5IP4E1>

Kelly	Costner	COE
Kristen	Abernathy	CAS
Kori	Bloomquist	CAS
DeAnn	Brame	Library
Alice	Burmeister	CVPA
Marguerite	Doman	COB
Erin	Hamel	COE
Jessie	Hamm	CAS
Matthew	Hayes	CAS
Dustin	Hoffman	CAS
Stacy	Martin	COE
Alice	McLaine	COE
Wendy	Sellers	CAS
Danko	Tarabar	CBA
Jason	Tselentis	CVPA
Jesse	Weser	CVPA
Michael	Whitney	CBA
Gina	Jones	Rec and Reg
randon	Jackson	Student

Guests: Tim Drueke, Jeff Bellantoni, Meg Webber, Dwight Dimaculanacan, Chen Chen, Seth Rouser, Jamie Cooper, Jennie Rakestraw, Gerry Derksen, Zach Abernathy, Trent Kull, Jenny Schafer, Elizabeth Dulemba.

I. Minutes from the Fri Aug 28, 2020, working session—approved by email

II. Remarks from the Chair (Kelly Costner)

- A. Council is now complete with the addition of Marguerite Doman (appointed by Provost from CBA) and Stacy Martin (elected from COE FA)
- B. See membership roster for complete list of roles for 2021

III. Remarks from the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Video remarks made available prior to meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4DYG-NPojU>.

IV. Remarks from the President of the Council of Student Leaders (CSL) (Brandon Jackson)

Video remarks at

https://winthropu.sharepoint.com/:v:/s/AcademicCouncil/Ea1VGA4ISNRItH_OO3amKPEBvO8sxnWvTUcWdEXZ-j2x2w?e=nQtTJH

Dr. Elizabeth Dulemba indicated that her ADD students were having problems with multiple platforms. They are having a hard time keeping up and working the technology.

Dr. Michael Whitney asked which ones.

Dr. Marguerite Doman said she has had similar student challenges.

Dr. Whitney indicated each has different advantages. He would like to see one product that could do it all.

Mr. Jason Tselentis noted that high school students use several platforms. If it's accessibility, a plan can be made and accommodations made. There are a lot of tools in the real world that they will need to know.

Dr. Dulemba said more education is needed to train students before they start classes.

Dr. Whitney agreed that would be ideal. He mentioned admissions training videos.

Dr. Matthew Hayes mentioned that students need to know technology requirements ahead of time. This is especially an issue with windows-based vs Mac operating systems.

Mr. Tim Druke mentioned there is currently a conversation about a laptop requirement.

Dr. Hayes appreciated the perspective of the students. He referred to the issue of "busy-work," and stressed that small amounts of work more often is better for learning.

Dr. Kori Bloomquist appreciated the student perspective on office hours. She wanted to hear best practices. She's had one student take advantage of her office hours.

Mr. Tselentis spoke about trying to get a hold of students. He sent Outlook calendar meetings and sent directly to students who responded. He talked about a calendar he uses to schedule appointments.

Dr. Jessie Hamm indicated she set up group meets for all her sections. They check phones more than anything. It's a good way to stay connected.

Dr. Dustin Hoffman said he was hearing about different tools and he could not keep up. He went to BlackBoard training and felt the online learning section is not intuitive. We need consistency.

Mr. Tselentis noted that the challenge with finding one tool is that all our students are different. He reaches out to students as needed.

V. Reports from Standing Committees

1. Committee on University Curriculum (Alice McLaine)

Report on curriculum actions from Friday, September 18, 2020

These 4 program change items (degree) can be found in the Curriculum Application System. They were approved unanimously and forwarded for consideration by Faculty Conference.

Program		Department	Action
BDES-DESN-XDES	Bachelor of Design: Experience Design	Design	New degree program
BDES-DESN-GDES	Bachelor of Design: Graphic Design	Design	New degree program
BDES-DESN-ILUS	Bachelor of Design: Illustration	Design	New degree program
BDES-DESN-INDS	Bachelor of Design: Interior Design	Design	New degree program

These 2 program change items (minor) can be found in the Curriculum Application System. They were approved unanimously, and require no further action.

Program		Department	Action
Minor-ANTH	Minor in Anthropology	Sociology and Anthropology	Modify minor: Remove “to include ANTH 201, ANTH 302, either ANTH 202 or ANTH 220, and 9 additional hours in anthropology.”
Minor-HDFS	Minor in Human Development and Family Studies	Human Development and Family Studies	Modify minor: Under “Choose 2 from the following...” remove FACS 211 and add HDFS 490 Contemporary Issues and Trends in Family Studies.

Dr. Whitney wanted discussion on BIOL 331 excel course. He said this was duplicating our university resources (because a course on Excel is offered in CSCI). He also had a concern with 300 vs 100-level. He said CSCI department would work with any class to make the Excel class more “tailored.”

Dr. McLaine mentioned this was discussed in CUC. She reached out to the faculty member who created the course. The proposing faculty member in BIOL (Dr. Jennifer Schafer) made it clear that it would not be submitted as a technology course. It was only recommended for BIOL students who had a specific need. CUC does emphasize that consultation should occur when courses are similar.

Dr. Jennifer Schafer of the Biology department indicated that the purpose of course was to provide BIOL students with job skills. Her impression was that because the course was so focused on a field-specific function that it was not overlapping.

Dr. Whitney stated that students should have foundation of Excel and then have this course build upon that.

Dr. Schafer said she'd be glad to work with Dr. Whitney and make some other changes to accommodate the concern.

Dr. Doman asked, "If we postpone the action, will that be a problem?"

Dr. Schafer said it would not.

Dr. McLaine moved that AC hold it until further info is gathered.

Dr. Whitney seconded.

The motion was passed with two dissents. The department later chose to withdraw the course to revise and begin curriculum approval sequence again.

Dr. McLaine also talked about courses with HMXP as pre-req and noted that HMXP can slow progression, especially transfer students. She reached out to the department which agreed to drop the HMXP requirement but add sophomore status. She reminded colleagues to think about this course being a barrier.

2. General Education Curriculum Committee (DeAnn Brame)

Report from meeting on Friday, September 11, 2020

The following new certifications were approved unanimously.

Global: PLSC 336—Russian Politics, 345—European Politics, 504—American Foreign Policy

Historical Perspectives: ARTH 421—Visual Culture of Medieval Pilgrimage

Technology: PSYC 195,195x—Technology Tools for Research and Personal Productivity

Global /Humanities/ Historical: ARTH 422—Medieval Cities

VI. Old/Ongoing Business

A. *Bylaws—update from ad hoc group (Alice Burmeister, Stacy Martin, Wendy Sellers)—Appendix A*

Written report was shared with AC members prior to the meeting. There were no comments.

B. *General Education Component Reviews—update on procedures and reporting expectations (Kristen Abernathy)*

Dr. Abernathy will be working with component teams and the idea is to collect more data. They will distribute a survey and create focus groups.

C. *COVID-19 Grading System Research—Appendix B*

Mr. Drueke clarified the HOPE to LIFE eligibility. He said in regard to the data, that this was what he expected.

Dr. Hamm was shocked but encouraged.

Dr. Costner spoke about not many students selecting all S/Us. That was encouraging.

Dr. Kristen Abernathy said that in response to earlier concerns, looking at students who were going to be in most distress, this helped that population. She admitted being torn, that there are good and bad ramifications.

Dr. Hayes said he was still not sure what the alternative is. He asked, "What are we trying to

solve with this grading system?”

Dr. Costner responded that we're not sure we can answer that. Looking at spring, we may modify more (having modified from spring 20 to fall). In working with teacher ed students, he introduced various online tools slowly, and all were linked through Blackboard. As we continue, maybe students are getting used to the technology.

Mr. Tsentis stated that he watched as colleges across the country did something similar with grading systems. His students were unsure about the system and confused about the chart. How can the university communicate this better? He asked who the benefit was for. He hoped the students, but students were confused by the chart.

Dr. McLaine said this benefits the university as it helped with retention. This was taking some stress off.

VII. New Business

Dr. Costner asked about other institutions making grading changes for fall.

Mr. Druke indicated that we had not found any other institutions in South Carolina that have noted changes to their grading schemes.

Dr. Bloomquist spoke to the items in the chat. (See link at top for information.)

VIII. Announcements/ Adjournment

Dr. Costner adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Jones
Secretary