

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES
February 24, 2012

Academic Council met on Friday, February 24, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Macfeat House Conference Room B.

Members:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| David Beatty | Visual & Performing Arts |
| Keith Benson* | Business Administration |
| John Bird | Arts & Sciences |
| Matthew Fike | Arts & Sciences |
| Kambrell Garvin* | CSL Student Representative |
| Mark Hamilton | Visual & Performing Arts |
| Lisa Harris | Education |
| Jennifer Jordan* | Education |
| Will Kiblinger, Chair | Arts & Sciences |
| Jo Koster | Arts & Sciences |
| Willis Lewis | Business Administration |
| Ron Parks* | Visual & Performing Arts |
| Frank Pullano | Arts & Sciences |
| Darren Ritzer | Arts & Sciences |
| Carol Shields | Education |
| Marilyn Smith | Business Administration |
| Gale Teaster-Woods* | Library |
| Brad Tripp | Arts & Sciences |
| Gina Jones, Secretary | Registrar |

*absent

Guests present: Alice Burmeister, Cliff Calloway, Tim Drueke, Jennie Rakestraw, and David Wohl.

Chair Kiblinger called the Council to order at 2:05 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from the meeting of November 18, 2011

Minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Remarks from the Chair Will Kiblinger

Dr. Kiblinger indicated that VP Boyd could not make it today. He passed along that institutional management, the fact book, etc. are coming up. The new software, Blackboard Analytics, will help. Digital Measures is already being used by the College of Business, but the hope is to extend access to all faculty.

III. Committee Reports

A. Report from the Committee on University Curriculum.....Jo Koster

Dr. Koster asked if anyone had questions about any of the courses. There were none.

The reason for tabling the secondary education programs was that the BS-ELEM and BS-ECED have to be sent to CHE first as they are major program modifications. All other program changes will just require a notification to CHE. Dr. Koster urged departments to have items in by April 2. The last CUC meeting is April 6.

The following Program Changes (degree) were all approved by Academic Council:

| Degree | Major | Conc. | College | Department | Action |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|------------|---|
| BA | ARTS | | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology and Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "See Approved List" to ARTS 281; Remove ARTS 201 and 202 from list of required courses in the major; Require 6 hours from ARTS 204, 205, 206 and Add ARTS 501 to list of required courses in the major; Reduce number or ARTS Electives from 18 to 12; Increase general elective range from 19-32 to 32-36 |
| BA | ARTH | | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Remove ARTS 101 (3) as a stand alone requirement; Require a total of 3 hours from ARTS 101, 102, 120, or 305; Add ARTH 401 to list of required courses in major |
| BA | ENGL | WRIT | ASC | English | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Foreign Language requirement from 201 level to 102 level in the Language/Logic/Semiotics Area. |
| BA | ENGL | CSST | ASC | English | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Foreign Language requirement from 201 to 102 level in Language/Logic/Semiotics Area; Change Foreign Language requirement credit range from 0-8 to 0-5; Increase General |

| | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|-----|-----------------|--|
| | | | | | Elective credit range from 3-17 to 6-17 |
| BA | ENGL | LLAN | ASC | English | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Foreign Language requirement from 201 level to 102 level in the Language/Logic/Semiotics Area; Remove 6 hours of HIST 308, 313, 314, 315, 343, 344, 346, 347, 509, 525, 540, 542, ARTH 175, 176 from major requirements; Increase WRIT electives from 3 to 6 required credits; Increase ENGL Electives from 9 to 12 required credits; Increase General Elective credit range from 3-32 to 6-32; Reduce Foreign Language requirement credit range from 0-8 to 0-5 |
| BA | PSYC | | ASC | Psychology | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add PSYC 303 optional course to complete 8 hours in the Experimental Sequence requirement in the major |
| BA | THTR | DTEC | VPA | Theatre & Dance | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Quantitative Methods requirement from MATH 105 or 150 to "See approved list"; Change Global Perspectives requirement from "See approved list" to THTR 210; Change Historical Perspectives requirement from "See approved list" to THTR 385; Change Social Science requirement from 3 hours in GEOG 101, PSYC 101, ECON, PLSC, or SOCL to "See Approved List" |
| BA | THTR | PERF | VPA | Theatre & Dance | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Quantitative Methods requirement from MATH 105 or 150 to "See approved list"; Change Social Science requirement from 3 hours in GEOG 101, PSYC 101, ECON, PLSC, or SOCL to "See Approved List" |
| BA | THTR | MUST | VPA | Theatre & Dance | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add "Pass a proficiency evaluation in jazz, tap, and musical theatre forms; pass the Basic Music Skills Examination with satisfactory proficiency or complete MUST 101 and MUST 103" to Graduation Requirements |
| BFA | ARTS | CERM | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from "See Approved GenEd List; may be met with ARTS" to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "3 hours may be met with ARTS 281; See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Remove ARTS 201, 202, and 370; ADD ARTS 206, 204, 281, 364, 490 and 500 to list of required courses in the major; Reduce ARTS Electives from 15 to 6; Add Electives range of 0-2; Decrease total number of hours required from 125 to 124. |
| BFA | ARTS | GSTD | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from "See Approved GenEd List; may be met with ARTS" to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See |

| | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|-----|-----------|---|
| | | | | | Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "3 hours may be met with ARTS 281; See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Increase number of credits required in major form 87 to 93; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 370 and 6 hours of ARTS Electives from major requirements; ADD ARTS 490 and ARTS 500 to list of required courses in the major |
| BFA | ARTS | JMTL | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from "VCOM 261 or CSCI 101 (101A, 101B, 101F)" to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "3 hours may be met with ARTS 281; See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Increase number of credits required in major form 87 to 90; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 342, 351, 370, and 484 from major requirements; Add ARTS 206, 204, 281, 490, and 500 to list of required courses in the major; Add ARTS 351 as an approved course option to meet major requirements; Decrease Elective credit range from 3-6 to 0-2; Reduce total number of hours required from 128 to 124. |
| BFA | ARTS | PNTG | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from "See Approved GenEd List; may be met with ARTS" to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "3 hours may be met with ARTS 281; See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Increase number of credits required in major form 87 to 90; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 332 from major requirements; ADD ARTS 206, 281, 364, 490, and 500 to list of required courses in the major; Add ARTS 204 or 205 as approved course options to meet major requirements; Decrease number of ARTS Electives from 9 to 3. |
| BFA | ARTS | PHOC | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 312, |

| | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|-----|-----------|--|
| | | | | | 370, 371, and 470 from list of major requirements; Add ARTS 205, 365, 366, 490, and 500 to list of major requirements; Add ARTS 204 or 206 to list of major requirements; Add 2 additional hours of General Electives |
| BFA | ARTS | PHOF | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 312, 370, 371, and 470 from list of major requirements; Add ARTS 205, 281, 365, 490, and 500 to list of major requirements; Add ARTS 204 or 206 to list of major requirements; Reduce number of ARTS Electives from 12 to 9; Reduce number of total hours from 128 to 125 |
| BFA | ARTS | PMKG | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Increase number of hours required in the major from 87 to 90; Remove ARTS 201, 202, and 370 from list of major requirements; Add ARTS 206, 281, 364, 490, and 500 to list of major requirements; Add ARTS 204 or 205 to list of major requirements; Reduce number of ARTS Electives from 15 to 9 |
| BFA | ARTS | SCUL | VPA | Fine Arts | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change Technology Requirement from "See Approved GenEd List; may be met with ARTS" to "met in major with ARTS 281"; Change Oral Communication requirement from "See Approved GenEd List" to "SPCH 201"; Change Logic/Language/Semiotics requirement from "3 hours may be met with ARTS 281; See Approved GenEd List" to "met by ARTS 281 and SPCH 201"; Decrease Critical Skills Area credit range from 15-18 to 12; Increase number of credits required in major from 87 to 90; Remove ARTS 201, 202, 370 and 482 from major requirements; ADD ARTS 204, 206, 281, 364, 458, 490 and 500 to list of required courses in the major; Reduce ARTS Electives from 6 to 3 |
| BS | CHEM | BCHM | ASC | Chemistry | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add CHEM 495 as a required course in the Major; Increase total credit hours required in the major from 72 to 73; Decrease General Elective credit hour range from 0-22 to 0-21; Increase total credit hour range from 124-133 to 124-134 |

| | | | | | |
|----|------|------|-----|-----------|--|
| BS | BIOL | BMRS | ASC | Biology | MODIFY PROGRAM: Change number of hours required for BIOL 315 from 3 to 4; Add BIOL 309, 551, 552A, 552B to list of approved courses in Area A: Ecology, Evolution, and Field Biology; Increase the credit range for Area A from 4-7 to 7-8; Reduce number of General Elective credit range from 15-23 to 11-22. |
| BS | BIOL | BIOL | ASC | Biology | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add BIOL 309, 551, 552A, 552B to list of approved courses in Area A: Ecology, Evolution, and Field Biology; Change MATH requirement from 6 hours from MATH 105, 150, 151, or 201 to 3 hours from MATH 105, 150, 151, or 201, plus 3 hours from any MATH course (except 291-292) |
| BS | BIOL | MTEC | ASC | Biology | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add BIOL 309, 551, 552A, 552B to list of approved courses in Area A: Ecology, Evolution, and Field Biology |
| BS | CHEM | ASCP | ASC | Chemistry | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add CHEM 495 as a required course in the Major; Increase total credit hours required in the major from 56 to 57; Reduce General Elective credit range from 8-26 to 7-25 |
| BS | CHEM | MULP | ASC | Chemistry | MODIFY PROGRAM: Add CHEM 495 as a required course in the Major; Increase total credit hours required in the major from 72 to 73; Increase total credit hour range from 124-133 to 124-134 |
| BS | BIOL | CNSV | ASC | Biology | NEW PROGRAM |

Program Change (minor) approved by Academic Council:

| Minor | Title | Department | Action |
|-------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|
| VIDS | Visual Design Studies | Design | NEW MINOR |

Requires Faculty Conference Vote.

B. Report from the General Education Committee.....John Bird

1. General Education Committee Curriculum Action

- a. First Certify
 - i. Global
 - 1. EDCI 210--accepted
 - ii. Humanities and Arts
 - 1. READ 290--accepted
- b. Recertification
 - i. Oral Communication
 - 1. SPCH 203—accepted

2. Writing Intensive Bylaws

The bylaws from the Writing Intensive Committee have been submitted. There had been discussion about folding the Writing Intensive Committee into the Gen Ed Committee, but it was determined that the WIC had such specific duties that it should be separate. The vote is to put bylaws in the faculty manual. Mr. Drueke asked if the Rules Committee had reviewed the bylaws. Dr. Bird said they had not. The vote is to send the bylaws to the Rules Committee. The motion was approved.

3. Proposal to revise certification and recertification forms

- c. Change in submission process—forms no longer need to be sent to Dean of University College.
- d. Delete “Student Goals in the Touchstone Program” from all forms—the University Level Competencies will now supersede the Student Goals.
- e. Delete requirement for an assessment plan from all forms—General Education courses will no longer be assessed at the individual course level.
- f. Add the University Level Competencies, with the requirement that General Education courses must address at least one ULC; the form will require a brief explanation/justification.
- g. Add check boxes to “Learning Objectives”—applicants will check all applicable objectives and include those objectives on syllabi for the course.
- h. The General Education Committee has one sample revised form; all forms will need to be revised before next academic year.

The changes to the certification forms will be a committee report to Faculty conference. Changes were approved.

It is important to remind chairs that recertifications need to be done early so that the same problem that happened in the last round of recertifications does not happen again. Gina Jones, Registrar, suggested that we set an early due date for recertifications of 100-level courses during the next academic year for inclusion in the catalog. That due date will be September 15.

4. The General Education Committee discussed concern over colleges and departments attempting to fulfill much of the Touchstone program within their areas, which may violate the spirit of a General Education program. (This is under “new business” below.)

IV. Unfinished Business

None

V. New Business

A. Minimum GPA policy proposal

This is a proposal to the Academic Council from the Academic Standing Work Group, with support from the Academic Leadership Council.

The Academic Standing Work Group proposes raising the minimum grade point average required for students to be in good standing to 2.000 for all undergraduate students. Currently, the undergraduate catalog has a graduated GPA requirement starting at 1.75 for Freshmen, 1.85 for Sophomores and 2.0 for Juniors and Seniors.

The ASWG reviewed the probation and suspension policies for our peer and other nearby institutions. In many cases, the minimum GPA requirements for good standing were 2.0 and not staggered.

The ASWG does not recommend any other changes to the probation/suspension policy at this time.

Mr. Drueke talked about the charge from former VP Tom Moore. ALC has wanted this for a long time. Mr. Drueke pointed out that students have risen to the occasion when the GPA minimum has increased in the past. This change will allow students to get help earlier.

The proposal was unanimously approved.

B. General Education discussion

Dr. Bird indicated that the Gen Ed Committee had noticed courses being submitted in different areas of majors that followed a pattern of attempting to satisfy much of the general education requirements within their own majors. The Gen Ed committee cannot deny a course for general education certification because it is believed to be padding a major. He is not sure Academic Council can do anything, but he wanted to bring it forth for discussion because it is a concern.

Dr. Koster revealed that CUC has had similar discussions. Since 2004, we have seen inadvertent creep. Some of this is due to accreditation and assessment issues. She pointed out that students do not come to a college, but to a university.

Dr. Smith felt that students should get a historical perspective regardless of what building it is in. We should stay focused on perspectives rather than where the course is taught. The learning objective is more important.

Dr. Bird agreed that this was a good point. His concern was that a student may get all experiences in one place. We don't want turf wars, but he is just raising a concern.

Mr. Hamilton thought this was a judgment call and is not an appropriate charge of the committee.

Dr. Tripp suggested we take this concern to department chairs.

Dr. Pullano remarked that BA degrees have this safeguard in place. He shared concern and thought courses being required in the general education should be put as major requirements.

Dr. Kiblinger asked if the Council sees this as a problem.

Dr. Koster asked if students are getting the perspective they need? We're not accusing departments of recusing general education.

Dr. Kiblinger stated that sometimes there are competing goods—program goods and university goods. We should try to balance these goods.

Dr. Calloway commented that Chemistry programs have tried to take courses out of general education.

Dr. Bird reminded the Council that the Gen Ed committee is made up of all colleges. They did not raise this concern lightly. He was opposed to the general education changes in 2004. He believes strongly that a student should not graduate without an ENGL lit or HIST course. He has heard comments about "How does this help my college?" and feels we sacrificed in order to put a new program in place.

Mr. Hamilton remarked that he feels we were compelled to do this, and that competing goals and certification may have led to this. He agreed that students need broader experience. He asked if we want to get bogged down in making this judgment.

Dr. Smith commented that there are certain circumstances where a list of courses is a better fit for the major. The Sustainability concentration (in the college of Business) uses BIOL/CHEM rather than NUTR & PHYS. This wasn't a political move.

Dr. Shields urged the council to collect data on this issue before we decide it's a problem.

Dr. Bird framed this concern as "Is there a problem?" He thinks deans, chairs and VP should take a look. If they don't see a problem, then okay. He proposed sending this to ALC.

Dr. Shields reiterated that we should collect data before sending forward.

Dr. Pullano asked if this issue should this go to the University Priorities committee.

Mr. Drueke indicated that one of the items coming out of the January retreat is looking at curriculum and general education. This is part of the "Prioritize Identified" items for further examination.

Dr. Bird asked, "Do we table the motion?" He then asked that we hold the motion because of its specific scope. The motion is that there *could* be a problem, not that there is.

Dr. Lewis asked about historical perspectives and why there was not a history course. Marilyn explained about the perspective part. ARTH can meet this area. Dr. Koster said the university had tried to move outside of the designator and look at content.

Dr. Bird then made a formal motion: "The General Education Committee and the Committee on University Curriculum have raised the concern that colleges, programs, and majors may be attempting to fulfill much of the Touchstone Program within their areas, which may violate the spirit of a general education program. Academic Council asks the Academic Leadership Council to examine the issue, to determine if the concern is valid, and, if so, to recommend a course of action."

The motion was approved with one dissent.

C. Prioritize "Identified Items for Further Examination"

Dr. Kiblinger suggested that AC may want more time to discuss the "Identified Items". He asked, "Do we have a ready-made answer? Do you have priorities in your mind?"

Mr. Drueke explained that the list was what we should be focusing on in the next months. The grid was a way to cluster things.

Mr. Hamilton commented that the list looked like academic priorities, but sometimes this isn't the case. He gave the example of HMXP and whether or not to require it for transfer students because it's easier for them to transfer, and this is a different priority. Faculty are asked priorities, but then different priorities are taken.

Dr. Rakestraw asked, "What are the issues we should be looking at?" These are things that rose to the top. Priorities are needed for VP's to take to the Executive Officers. We can't prioritize everything, but discussion is needed to sort these out.

Dr. Bird asked the Deans in the room, "Is there a push from somewhere to reconsider the general education program?"

Dr. Rakestraw indicated that there are a variety of opinions and concerns being expressed. There is no agenda, however.

Dr. Wohl raised concern about the current configuration of general education at Winthrop, and said it is a good practice to see what is going on elsewhere in this regard.

Dr. Rakestraw questioned whether the university is tweaking general education or whether we relook at it altogether? General education is difficult to understand.

Dr. Koster felt the initial message from leadership about general education was that this was distinctive. There has been a backing away of this conviction.

Dr. Rakestraw asked, "What will help us go forward to meet our students' needs?" The general idea is to help us grow and improve. What do we need to look at right now?

Dr. Koster suggested setting up a survey and compiling data for the next meeting.

Mr. Hamilton supported the survey idea and would like the results presented to faculty. Mr. Drueke stated this is just for AC to help it. It can be put in the agenda.

VI. Announcements

Dr. Kiblinger reminded everyone that mid-term grading begins Monday and that grades are due March 4.

There was a move to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Jones, Registrar