ASCC 9/20/2019

385 Bricker Hall 9:00-11:00am

Approved Minutes

# ATTENDEES: Bitters, Coleman, Crocetta, Craigmile, Fink, Haddad, Jenkins, Kline, Kulkarni, Lam, Miriti, Oldroyd, Orefice, Panero, Ponce, Rush, Sessa, Steinmetz, Stotlar, Susor, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen, Vasey, Wilson, Winnubst, Xiao

AGENDA:

1. Approval of 9-6-19 minutes

* Vaessin, Vasey, approved with one abstention

1. Deactivation Sexuality Studies BA (guests: Joe Ponce & Shannon Winnubst)

* The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel reviewed a proposal to deactivate the BA in Sexuality Studies. After the disbanding of the Diversity and Identity Studies Collective (DISCO), plans were made to move Sexuality Studies to the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department. A yearlong review process revealed that WGSS does not have the faculty or administrative staff to support the major. The program does not have enough faculty or administrative support to be supported on its own. The proposal calls for the deactivation of the major and the retitling of the Sexuality Studies minor as a minor in LGBTQ+ Studies, which will be administered by WGSS. The viability of the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Sexuality Studies is being evaluated.
* Committee member question: How do you think the GIS and the minor will fare?
  + The minor is on great footing. It is unclear if the GIS will be sustainable, as many courses are not offered on a regular basis. Students may be directed to a graduate minor in WGSS instead.
* Committee member comment: There is faculty attrition and no funding. It’s not surprising that there isn’t administrative capability to run the program.
* Winnubst: This was an ambitious major. It did not have a department. It drew from across the university for courses. We have this same kind of structure in place for all ethnic studies programs now. This is how WGSS started too. If OSU is not willing to put departments behind these programs, this problem will repeat. When DISCO broke down, some programs moved into departments and some moved into Humanities Institute, which is untenable.
* Committee member question: How does the college view these developments?
  + Placing ethnic studies in Humanities Institute reduced cost. The optimistic view is that it will enhance collaboration and give them more visibility. There is possibility for revitalization and new growth for these programs under this structure. This restructuring may result in renewed interest. The pessimistic view is that these programs will disappear.
  + It is a disservice to students to offer programs when we do not have the resources to offer the courses in the program.
  + The distinction between sexuality studies and WGSS is not clear to students.
* Committee member comment: There isn’t a shortage of faculty who could be involved in these programs. There is a shortage of funding to make these programs happen. The optics of deactiving this program are not good.
* Committee member comment: What is the message from the college to faculty here? The discovery themes are supposed to be interdisciplinary, but the programs that could support them, like DISCO, are collapsing.
  + This seems like an issue for faculty advising committee to bring up with the new executive dean.
* A&H2 letter, Kulkarni, **approved with one abstention and two votes opposed**

1. Revision WGSS BA and undergraduate minor (guests: Shannon Winnubst & Jackie Stotlar)

* The Arts and Humanities 1 Panel approved a revision to the WGSS BA and undergraduate minor. The revision more accurately represents the department’s goals of multi-disciplinary study and faculty expertise. The four concentrations in the current curriculum were eliminated. Students will take three core courses (WGSST 2550, WGSST 3575, and 4575) and an introductory course. The courses address the core competencies of the program. Students will also be required to take two electives focused on women of color and transnational feminism. The department worked with the University Center for the Advancement of Teaching to develop new learning goals and an assessment plan for the program.
* Committee member question: What is the transition plan?
  + The department wants to be flexible with the current pool of students. WGSST 2300 will be taken off the books and replaced with 3575; the department will be flexible with students who have not yet met the requirement to take 2300. Students who are in the concentration areas and want to complete them will be allowed to do so. If students prefer the new program, they will be allowed to complete the new curriculum.
* Committee member question: What is the plan to communicate the change with current students?
  + The department will send out information through Listservs. Additionally, the department will work closely with academic advisors to identify students who are in the middle of the program and have not worked with an advisor to develop a plan to complete the curriculum.
* Committee member comment: The program level goals are great and set an example for other departments.
* Committee member comment: Having this many outcomes will make assessment difficult.
  + From a distance view, it does look overwhelming. The pacing of the assessment will allow the department to look at the program at a detailed level. The complexity of the assessment plan reflects the complexity of the department and faculty.
* Comment from graduate representative: As a former student, the new learning outcomes and methodology class look great. This will help students meet with faculty and establish research connections.
* Correct typos:
  + Minor sheet says 30 credit hours instead of 12
  + “Minors may overlap up to 6 credit hours of GEs with the exception of WGSST 1110.” 1110 does overlap.
  + Last bullet on major sheet says “pay petition”
  + “1 electives” should be “1 elective”
* Committee member question: Is the department expecting an uptick in enrollment with deactivation with the Sexuality Studies BA?
  + The department is not expecting an uptick in enrollment due to the Sexuality Studies BA deactivation, but is seeing an uptick in enrollment in general.
* A&H1 letter, Craigmille, **unanimously approved**

1. New History Graduate Minor (guest: Kristina Sessa)

* The graduate minor in History is designed for students outside the field of History to enhance their studies in historical research skills and methodologies. Students will complete a minimum of 10 credit hours and a maximum of 20 credit hours, including History 7900. Approximately 5 students a semester are expected to enroll in the minor.
* Sessa: In some ways, this is formalizing relationships that have been informal for many years. The department has often taught graduate students in this area. This will give students an official transcript designation for the work they do with the department.
* Committee member question: How will the department communicate this change to graduate students outside the department?
  + The department will send out an announcement to departments and ask them to inform graduate students.
* Committee member comment: In addition to emails, the department might find it useful to ask the chair to promote at the chairs and directors of graduate studies meeting. Additionally, it is very important to inform graduate staff and advisors.
* A&H2 letter, Kline, **approved with one abstention**

1. New Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science and Technology (guest: Ningchuan Xiao)

* The Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel reviewed and approved a proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science and Technology (GIST). Students will take 12 credit hours in mapping, spatial analysis, remote sensing, and geospatial data analytics, including one required introductory GIS course.
* Committee member question: Is there a reason this certificate is not also being made available to undergraduate students, since all the courses are 5000-level?
  + The certificate is targeted to graduate students. There is an undergraduate minor in GIS.
* Committee member comment: The certificate may appeal to more undergraduates, since the minor requires more courses that need to be taken in sequence.
* Committee member comment: The learning goals on the curriculum.osu.edu form do not match the goals in the proposal.
* Committee member comment: Since there are two target groups (matriculating students and non-matriculating students), the department should be sure to schedule courses for a work-force audience.
* SBS letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**

1. Change to Foreign Language Requirement - Int Stds BA

* The Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel approved a request to change the language requirement for the BA. The change will allow students to fulfill the language requirement of the BA with either the completion of a minor in a foreign language or through completion of two years of language study in a single language.
* Committee member comment: Two years of language study is only one course beyond 1103. A minor in a language goes beyond this. When the BS was created two years ago, it was created with a non-language minor requirement. Now that the BA is being revised, the programs are dissimilar. It is likely that the BS will remove the minor requirement in the future.
* Committee member comment: The hope is that removing the minor requirement will make it easier for students to major in international studies and allow students to take more content courses and potentially double major. The program will go through an external review soon, and a revision of the BS is upcoming.
* Committee member question: Is the external review a review of just the BS? Why are they only revising the BA now?
  + The review is for both the BA and BS. The program wants an opinion on a minor requirement for the BS from the reviewers.
* Note: There are still many mentions of “pre-major” in the proposal that need to be revised.
* SBS letter, Rush, **unanimously approved**

1. Panel updates

* A&H1
  + Entomology 3797.01E & 3797.02E – approved with one contingency and one recommendation
  + WGSS 2260 – approved
  + WGSS 3575 – approved with recommendations
* A&H2
  + French 4402 – approved with two contingencies
  + Turkish 3350 – approved with three contingencies
  + Theatre 4381 – approved with two comments
  + Theatre 5325 – approved with two comments
  + AAAS 3450 – approved
  + AAAS 3370 – approved with one recommendation
* SBS
  + NELC 3201 – approved with one vote opposed
    - Committee member question: Why was this course returned so many times? What were the concerns?
      * The first presentation of the course was more like a pure humanities course, not a social science course. The Panel gave them options for improvement.
      * The second version did not explain what social scientific theories would be covered.
      * The department did not clearly articulate where social science theory fit into the course. The vote for approval was not unanimous.
  + International Studies 3400 – approved with two contingencies and two recommendations
  + Communication 3415 – approved with one contingency and one recommendation
  + Communication 3450 – approved with two recommendations
  + Anthropology 3005 – approved with three recommendations
  + Speech and Hearing Science 6771 – approved with one recommendation
* NMS
  + Microbiology and Chemistry 6790 – approved with two contingencies and two recommendations
  + Earth Science 1200 – approved with three recommendations
  + Earth Science 2000 – approved with four recommendations
  + Earth Sciences 2122 and 2122H – approved with one contingency and multiple recommendations
* Assessment
  + Explained the assessment process to new members (e.g. what reports the panel requests, what to look for when evaluating a report, etc.)
  + Reviewed quality examples for GE reports and plans
  + Reviewed report for Statistics 2480

1. Chair’s updates

* Working on how we can streamline approval of courses through ASC
  + Dean Ritter requested that we work to streamline the approval process.
  + Steve, Bernadette, Alison, and Deborah drafted report on how this could be done.
    - Report based on data for the 2013-14, 2016-17, 2018-19 academic years. The data was used to identify obstacles to course approval.
    - Some of these issues are structural (e.g. the department submitted a request right before a break). Others are more complicated (e.g. sending the request back multiple times to the department or not getting a response from the department)
    - There are some things we can do (e.g. when there is an issue with a course, ask them to come to panel to clarify rather than sending multiple emails and revisions)
  + Committee member comment: Curriculum is not just the responsibility of individual faculty. It falls into the larger community of the university. We are not intentionally trying to slow things down. ASCC is a group that has expertise and wants to work with units to develop curriculum.

1. GE updates

* The first ASC Faculty Senate meeting has been called for next Wednesday
  + The senate will vote in a new faculty chair.
* Committee member question: Who will be responsible for curriculum approval?
  + This was discussed at the Policies and Procedures subcommittee.
  + There are three components that need to be reviewed: themes, bookends, foundations.
  + The subcommittee decided that bookends would be assessed and evaluated by a subcommittee of ULAC.
  + The curricular evaluation and approval process will happen through ASC. The foundations will still come through ASC.
  + The subcommittee proposed a new subcommittee of ASCC for themes, since they are interdisciplinary. This subcommittee will be made up of 12 people, including ASC faculty and outside representation and a student representative.
  + Committee member comment: ULAC has not always had oversight of the GE. Their role was to assess and provide feedback on the GE. They were initially a joint subcommittee of ASCC and CAA. Their original role was not oversight. The distinction should be made that their role is changing. It may require that ULAC gets a new charge.
    - ULAC has not functioned in its intended role for a few years. It made sense that under the new GE that ULAC will function differently, and this role allows for input from other colleges