ASCC 11/1/2019

200 Bricker Hall 9:00-11:00am

Approved Minutes

# ATTENDEES: Bitters, Coleman, Craigmile, Crocetta, Edwards, Fink, Harrod, Hawkins, Heysel, Husen, Jenkins, Kline, Kulkarni, Lam, Oldroyd, Panero, Rush, Steinmetz, Susor, Taleghani-Nikazm, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen, Vasey, Wilson

AGENDA:

1. Approval of 10-18-19 minutes

* Vaessin, Rush, **unanimously approved**

1. Revision Actuarial Science BA and BS (guest: Bill Husen)

* The NMS Panel reviewed and approved a proposed revision to the Actuarial Science BA and BS. The proposed changes are in response to feedback suggestions from the industry that indicate a need for stronger communication skills for Actuarial Science majors. The revision adds one communication course (either Communication 2110, Communication 2131, or Communication 2367) as a prerequisite and a required course (English 3304) to the major.
* Committee member question: How did the department come to understand the need for communication courses in the program?
  + Part of the feedback from industry during the development of the Integrated Major in Mathematics and English (IMME) was the need for stronger communication skills. Most students do not go on to graduate school and go into industry instead. Good communication skills are important for math majors, even more so for actuarial science majors. Students were already advised to take these courses, but adding them as a requirement makes students better prepared for career expectations.
* Committee member question: What was the feedback from employers about communication?
  + Employers expressed that actuarial science students needed to better communicate their findings with people who are not actuaries.
* Committee member question: Are other departments in the field adding communication courses as well?
  + The department is ahead of the curve in recognizing what students are doing after graduation. The traditional thinking is that math students go into academia, which is not necessarily the case.
* Committee member question: How were these particular courses chosen?
  + The choices go back to conversations with English for the IMME.
* Committee member comment: Actuarial science is often a fast-track to management. Communication skills are important for management.
* Committee member question: Is the actuarial science field growing?
  + It is, but not as much as data science.
* Committee member comment: The department should consider using English 2367, since there are many versions available. All 2367 courses will change under the new GE to be an embedded writing course. The department may want to consider creating a decimalized version of 2367 with English or Communication.
* Committee member question: Is there a certificate that students can take related to communication?
  + The School of Communication is currently developing different certificates.
* Committee member comment: Given what was said about the direction of the industry, students may want a certificate in data science.
* NMS Letter, Craigmile, **unanimously approved**

1. Planetary Science Certificate (new) (Wendy Panero)

* The NMS Panel reviewed and approved the proposal for the Planetary Science Certificate via e-vote. Ohio State has significant strength in planetary sciences, but lacks an obvious departmental home or degree. The Planetary Science Certificate will indicate to graduate programs or potential employers that the student has engaged in a coherent set of undergraduate coursework in planetary science.
* Committee member comment: This certificate is a creative way of getting out of academic silos.
  + Students were looking for a pathway into the field, but there wasn’t a clear curricular path for them.
* Committee member comment: Is there a limit for the number of certificates that can be offered by the department?
  + The department is limited by the availability of courses, availability of faculty, and the overall sustainability of the program. The department needs multiple faculty members who can step into essential classes.
* Committee member comment: Earth Sciences should be commended for the quality of their proposals.
  + All the proposals were sent to Deborah Haddad at the first draft.
* Steve Fink: The point was made at the last Director of Undergraduate Studies meeting that departments should work with Assistant Deans to develop proposals.
* Committee member question: Is there an archive of proposals?
  + Proposals can be viewed and are searchable on ASCnet.
* Committee member question: Is there a place where Wendy could discuss the process of designing these certificates?
  + Wendy could discuss this at the next DUS meeting.
* Letter, Coleman, **approved** with one abstention

1. Panel updates

* A&H2
  + Comparative Studies 6100 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 6200 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 6300 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 6400 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 6500 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 8100 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 8200 – approved with comments
  + Comparative Studies 8990 – approved with comments
* A&H1
  + AAAS 3110S – approved with two contingencies
  + Russian 3355.99 – approved with one contingency and one comment
* NMS
  + Earth Science 5501 – approved via e-vote
* SBS
  + Geography 5801 – approved with one contingency and two recommendations
  + Geography 2400 – approved with two comments
  + Sociology 5925 – approved with two recommendations
  + Psychology 8860 – approved with two recommendations
* Assessment
  + Cancelled

1. Chair updates

* Certificate update:
  + The review will entail approximately 15 certificates from outside ASC.
* Alison Crocetta will discuss the Annual Report with the ASC Faculty Senate at their next meeting. The ASC Faculty Senate has to vote to approve the report.

1. GE updates

* Update on GE discussions at ASC Faculty Senate:
  + Meg Daly came to the last meeting to discuss GE updates related to the bookends.
  + Alan Kalish discussed the proposed GE ELOs.
  + Ad-hoc committees were proposed to discuss issues that are arising with GE implementation and to discuss theme proposals.
* Committee member question: Is there a transition plan for students?
  + An advising plan needs to be developed first. Other implementation issues need to be resolved before an advising plan. There will be a transition plan for students, which will be less complicated than semester conversion. We will have to take into consideration that some courses will no longer be offered. There will likely be a lot of individualization to the transition plan.
* An implementation document is being developed, which will be released around Thanksgiving to the larger implementation committee and then to the university at large.
* Committee member question: ASC Faculty Senators are interested in developing new themes. Are there rules yet regarding the creation of new themes?
  + An upcoming meeting will clarify this issue. Overlap of subcommittees has created some confusion. The implementation committee wants to create a proposal with clear messaging to release to departments.
  + Departments want to see themselves in the themes that are developed, and they do not see their place in the themes that have already been approved. We want departments to think of how they can fit in the model and be creative about their disciplines. Any themes that are proposed need to have comparable breadth to those that have been approved.
  + The themes are broad, and it is an intellectual challenge to get departments to see how their courses can fit in. It will also be difficult for students to understand the themes until the themes are populated with courses.
  + There are opportunities for humanities to fit in the themes that departments might be overlooking. The discovery themes demonstrate how this is possible.
  + The overarching “Citizenship for a Diverse and Just World” theme maps well to the humanities as well.
  + Departments need a definition of citizenship for this theme. The definition changes the meaning of this theme.
* Committee member comment: The themes aren’t the biggest concern for departments. The procedures are most important. Departments are highly dependent on the GE for enrollment, and they want to be able to move forward with the planning process.
* Committee member comment: Earth Sciences polled students and found that if students are given the option of not taking a science course in the themes, 100% of BA students would choose to not take one.
  + This should be an opportunity to look into interdisciplinary team-taught courses.
* Committee member question: When can we expect theme-specific GE ELOs?
  + The general theme ELOs are out for feedback. The theme-specific ELOs are next.
  + The ELOs will be refined at a meeting on Monday. They can be discussed at panels after this.
* Committee member question: What role will ASCC play in the curricular approval process during implementation?
  + ASCC will maintain its role in the approval process.
  + The implementation committee will discuss the process for fast-tracking foundation courses.
  + For the themes, we are considering having one theme panel since courses will be interdisciplinary. The panel will be part of ASCC. There will be a two-step approval process. There may be an ad-hoc member on panels to try to avoid courses being sent back unnecessarily.
  + There will be a working group to discuss the themes, including theme ideas, ELOs, and the process of developing theme courses.
* Committee member comment: It is good that the timeline for implementation is being extended. We have already passed some of the deadlines on the OAA website.
  + We need to find a productive balance. The current timeline risks rushing the end of the process. We do not want faculty to feel that they are forced into accepting the GE. However, a deadline is necessary to make sure the work is completed.
  + We want to reverse engineer the implementation timeline and develop a clear rationale for changing the timeline. The new timeline will be sent out to the university community.
* Committee member comment: One of the reasons for revising the GE was to reduce the size and number of classes. It seems like this model will result in a large number of courses, possibly even more than the number we have now.
  + Students will take fewer courses overall. Hopefully this will result in a natural thinning of courses to reduce overhead on the departments.
* Committee member comment: We should encourage faculty to turn to the OAA website and the GE newsletter for information about the GE.
  + Committee member suggestion: It would be useful to see the current version as well as older versions of the GE structure. Documents have changed, resulting in confusion about what is current.
* Committee member comment: There will be a reduction in students taking foundation courses. We should redevelop some courses as higher-level themes courses.
  + Committee member question: Has it been established that the theme courses are upper-division or 3000-level and above?
    - No one has set the bar at the 3000-level, but a lot of faculty understand this to be the case. Courses should build on foundations and do not need to be upper-division. This needs to be clarified for faculty.
* Committee member comment: There are unexplained changes in the GE model on the OAA website (e.g. “Social and Behavioral Studies” and “Health and Wellbeing”).

1. Revision to Bachelor of Music Education (guest: Jan Edwards)

* The Arts and Humanities 2 Panel reviewed and approved the proposal to revise the Bachelor of Music Education in November 2017. The proposal was resubmitted in October 2019. The revisions include changes to elective course offerings, including two new courses (Music 4665 and 5765) as well as the conversion of two required courses in the choral music specialization two elective courses.
* Committee member question: Why was there a delay in resubmitting the proposal?
  + Faculty who taught one course left the university, and there was limited time to work on the revision.
* Committee member comment: The revision seems to clarify pathways available to students.
* Committee member question: Is the department anticipating that graduate students will take Music 5765?
  + Yes, dual enrollment is expected.
* A&H2 letter, Vasey, **unanimously approved**