**Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee**

Approved Minutes

Friday, April 19th, 2024 9:10AM – 11:00AM

156 University Hall

**Attendees:** Bitters, Chamberlain, Dugdale, Hamilton, Hedgecoth, Hewitt, Hilty, Jenkins, Kitchen, Martin, Munoz-Gracia, Nagar, Neff, Ottesen, Podalsky, Pradhan, Staley, Steele, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen, Xiao

1. Proposal of offer the Biology Major (Integrated General Biology and Pre-Health Specializations) on the Mansfield Campus (Guests: D. Kitchen & A. Munoz-Garcia)
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee Letter: The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a request by the Mansfield campus of The Ohio State University to offer the BS and BA in Biology at the Mansfield campus. The campus will offer two specializations of the Biology major, the Pre-Health Professions and Integrated General Biology specializations. The campus has confirmed they have the physical and staffing infrastructure to offer the required coursework that will allow completion of these majors on the Mansfield campus. The Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee unanimously voted to approve the proposal and now advances it to the full Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.
   * Kitchen: The Mansfield campus is very excited to offer this major to our students. Should we gain approval, this major is on-track to become the fourth biggest major on our campus. One of our motivations for offering the Biology major is that our students come to us and often feel as if they need to rush from our campus to the Columbus campus in order to not fall behind in terms of time-to-degree. Additionally, it is important for us to point out that we do not see ourselves as competing with the Columbus campus for students. Many of our students are place-bound and/or rely on the reduced tuition of the Mansfield campus in order to complete their degrees, especially for those that are not Pell Grant eligible.
   * Munoz-Gracia: I teach many courses in the Natural Sciences at the Mansfield campus and not having a Biology major is one of the many reasons that I hear from our students for leaving our campus, when they would otherwise stay. Additionally, I believe that being able to have a Biology major on our campus can act as a strong recruiting tool to attracting students to our campus.
   * Committee Member question: How many students graduate from the Mansfield campus, on average?
     + Kitchen: On average, I would say that we have 150 students per year graduating from our campus.
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences Letter, Vaessin, **unanimously approved**
2. Updates from the Mansfield Campus (Guest: D. Kitchen)
   * Kitchen: I was invited to share with the committee some updates from the Mansfield campus, as it may be of some interest to the College. First, as I am sure everyone is aware, our enrollments have been in crisis for some time now. In some heartening news, I am happy to report that they are beginning to slowly grow. One of our most powerful recruitment strategies has been indirect recruitment. For example, we invite members of the community to our campus for what we call “STEM Day”, where prospective students are able to explore our campus and opportunities available to them should they decide to attend.
   * Kitchen: Additionally, one of our unique struggles is in regard to the implementation of the new General Education program. Under the legacy General Education program, our campus hired several tenure-track faculty to specifically teach courses under the old General Education categories. Now these individuals do not have the specific expertise in the new categories as they did underneath the old, legacy categories. However, it has been exciting for me to see our faculty work with their Tenure Initiating Units (TIUs) to develop new courses for the General Education that really play to the strengths of our faculty on this campus. We also still are actively participating in course sharing with other regional campuses and that continues to prove incredibly beneficial and cost-effective for our campus. We are hoping to expand this collaboration to Themes courses in the upcoming semesters.
   * Kitchen: Finally, speaking a little to collaborations with the other colleges, the College of Engineering has been an exciting partner for us in the past few years. We recently launched our Engineering Technology major program, which is only able to be completed on the regional campuses. We worked with the College of Engineering and industry partners to create a program that prepares students in mechanical engineering, cybersecurity, manufacturing, and computer and electrical engineering. This program prepares students to directly enter the workforce with the skills that our industry partners look for when they hire qualified individuals.
   * Committee Member question: Regarding collaboration between the regionals and the Columbus campus, do you often have guest lecturers or presenters that come to your campus?
     + Kitchen: Our tenure-track faculty are full members of their respective TIUs, so it is not uncommon for them to invite their colleagues to come present on their research and areas of expertise. Additionally, our faculty do travel to Columbus and the other regionals to present and talk about their own exciting research and experiences.
3. Informational Item: Revision of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Science (change to the Information & Computational Assurance specialization) (J. Ottesen)
   * Ottesen: The BS in Computer and Information Science is making a minor update to their Information & Computational Assurance specialization to remain in line with their accrediting body. The specialization is moving from three required courses to six required courses. However, given that three of the required courses overlap with required course choices that students need for the major, this change will not impact the number of credit hours required for students in this specialization to graduate.
4. Informational Item: Establishment of new Centers: Umwelt Center for Germanic Studies and Environmental Humanities; Feminist Research, Education, and Engagement (FREE Center); and the Center for American Sign Language and Deaf Equity (J. Ottesen)
   * Ottesen: The College of Arts and Sciences is creating three new centers within currently existing academic units. These centers are within units and will not be freestanding. Two of these new centers, the Umwelt Center for Germanic Studies and Environmental Humanities (housed within the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures), and the Feminist Research, Education, and Engagement (FREE) Center (housed within the Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies) are the result of securing Good to Great grants. The third center, the Center for American Sign Language and Deaf Equity (housed within the Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) is being created to consolidate efforts around teaching American Sign Language, training future instructors, and credentialing current instructors.
5. OPEEP Proposal to Offer an Embedded Bachelor of Arts with a major in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW) in Marysville (A. Martin)
   * Martin: As you may recall, on Friday, February 2nd, this committee heard a presentation and proposal from Drs. Mary Thomas and Tiyi Morris to develop a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. At the time, this body was supportive of the proposal and excited to see this occur. However, Randy Smith, Vice Provost for Academic Programs, has asked that the College formally vote to approve this proposal, and so we need to hold a formal vote to endorse this initiative.
   * The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee will vote to endorse a proposal to offer an embedded Bachelor of Arts with a major in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville, Ohio.
   * Vaessin, Hamilton, **unanimously approved**
6. Approval of 03/22/2024 Minutes
   * Vaessin, Hamilton, **unanimously approved**
7. Subcommittee Updates
   * Arts and Humanities 1
     + Comparative Studies 2350 – approved with contingency
     + English 2270 – approved with contingency
     + History 3676 – approved with contingency
     + Music 2201.35 – approved with contingency
     + Music 2471 – approved with contingency
     + Music 5591 – approved with contingency
     + Slavic 2345.30 – approved with contingency
     + Theatre 5602 – approved with contingency
   * Arts and Humanities 2
     + AAAS 3084 – approved
     + English 3595 – approved with contingency
     + Ethnic Studies 3408 – approved with contingency
     + Ethnic Studies 3572 – approved with contingency
     + History 3084 – approved
     + History of Art 4240 – approved with contingency
     + Music 2245 – approved
     + WGSS 3084 – approved
   * Natural and Mathematical Sciences
     + Astronomy 2020 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.01 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.02 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.03 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.04 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.05 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.06 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 3501.07 – approved with contingency
     + Biology 4901 – approved
     + Physics 1248 – approved with contingency
     + Physics 1249 – approved with contingency
   * Social and Behavioral Sciences
     + ASC 1137.xx “New First-year Seminar: L. Martin” – approved with contingency
     + Speech and Hearing Science 3380S – approved with contingency
     + Sociology 4791 – approved with contingency
     + Sociology 7713 – approved with contingency
   * Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity
     + N/A
   * Themes I
     + English 3361 – approved with contingency
     + ENR 3500H – approved with contingency
     + History 3251 – approved
     + Kinesiology: Sport Industry, Sport Management 3100 – approved with contingency
     + Scandinavian 3350 – approved with contingency
     + WGSS 2325 – approved with contingency
   * Themes II
     + Astronomy 2142 – approved with contingency
     + Classics 2205 – approved with contingency
     + Economics 3048 – approved with contingency
     + ESPHE 5440 – approved with contingency
     + Ethnic Studies 3562 – approved with contingency
     + History 3270 – approved with contingency
     + History of Art 3562 – approved with contingency
     + Philosophy 5440 – approved with contingency
     + Physics 2100 – approved with contingency
8. Dual Degrees – Major/new General Education (GEN) Overlap (M. E. Jenkins)
   * Jenkins: As you may recall at an earlier meeting this semester, we had a conversation about overlap between double or multiple majors and the new General Education program. Now, we need to discuss our options for overlap between the new General Education program (GEN) and dual degrees. As a refresher for those who may not be aware, under the legacy General Education (GEL), for a dual degree, a student would need to be able to complete each major program independently of each other and have a minimum total requirement of 151 hours completed by the time of graduation. Additionally, they would need to have completed 57 upper division hours. When a student completes a dual degree, they will be receiving two separate diplomas.
   * Jenkins: The decision we must make today is what types of overlap we will want to allow underneath the GEN program. There are four suggested options available, although if anyone has other ideas, we are certainly open to those. The first option would be to maintain the same policy under the GEN that exists for the GEL, which is that no course overlap is permitted between majors and the GEN, including the Themes. This would assumably require approval from CAA, as the GEN specifically allows for course overlap between majors and the Themes. The second option would be to restrict Theme overlap to just one of the majors. The third option would be to allow Theme overlap with both majors, with no limit other than what is specified in the university’s General Education rules. Finally, the fourth option would be to allow Theme overlap with either or both majors, but with a specific limit on how many hours, or how many courses, can overlap.
   * Committee Member question: Before we try to make a decision, how big of an issue is this truly? Do we have a lot of students seeking a dual degree or is this us getting ahead of a future problem?
     + Jenkins: While I do not have exact numbers, it is a fairly small population of students. Since the switch to semesters, most of our students will opt for a double or multiple majors, as opposed to a dual degree, given they only have eight opportunities to take the required coursework over a four-year period.
   * Committee Member comment: Option one should be eliminated from consideration, as it would violate the university’s General Education rules and I do not think we should set precedent that this is an option. Additionally, option three should be eliminated, as it goes against the spirit of why we revised our General Education program.
     + Comment Member comment: I agree with this and I am in support of option four. Option four will allow us to maintain our philosophy of having students complete additional requirements in order to earn a second diploma, while allowing us to give students needed flexibility.
   * Jenkins: If we are going with option four, which would be to allow Theme overlap with either or both majors with a specific limit on number of hours or courses, we will need to determine if we would like to limit this based on credit hours or courses.
     + Committee Member comment: Given the Themes can be completed based on variable amount of credit hours, I believe this should be based on credit hours. I propose that it be limited to 6 credit hours. It should be specified that students are not able to split credit hours as well. For example, if a student takes a 4-credit hour course for one Theme and two, 3-credit hour courses for another Theme, they cannot then overlap 2 of the 3-credits from one of their other courses.
     + Committee Member comment: Additionally, we should update the Arts and Sciences Faculty Rules to specify this new rule.
   * Jenkins: Thank you for your time in considering this new rule. We will have the full language for your review at our next meeting and can make any needed adjustments or changes.
   * The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee has opted to approve option four, which will allow Theme overlap with either or both majors with a limit of 6-credit hours for students pursuing a dual degree. Additionally, ASCC would like it specified that students may not split course credit hours and that this information will be updated in the ASC Faculty Rules. The finalized language will be presented at their next meeting.
   * Vaessin, Hewitt, **unanimously approved**
9. Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee Chair for Academic Year 2024-2025
   * Martin: As everyone is aware, Jen Ottesen will be stepping down at the end of her term as Chair of this body. Ila Nagar, current Chair of the Themes II Subcommittee, has expressed interest in this role. Given that there is no other nomination, our last order of business is to confirm that Ila Nagar will serve as Chair of this body for next year.
   * The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee has confirmed that Ila Nagar will serve as Chair for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year.