



Academic Policy & Curriculum Committee

October 10, 2018, GWP 320, 12:30-2:00pm

Minutes

Present: Menaka Abraham, Serin Anderson, Jeff Cohen, , Andrea Coker-Anderson, Lorraine Dinnel, Robin Evans-Agnew, Anthony Falit-Baiamonte, Jutta Heller, LeAnne Laux-Bachand, Patrick Pow, Jill Purdy, Evelyn Shankus, Jarek Sierschynski, Ruth Vanderpool **Guest:** Julie Nicoletta, Donald Chinn **Excused:** Christie Peralta

I. Consent Agenda and Recording

Consent given for recording minutes

II. Minutes

The 9/27/18 meeting minutes were approved on a motion from Jutta Heller, Jeff Cohen second, 9 approved, 0 no, 0 abstain.

III. Program Change Proposals

A. 1503 for Bachelor of Arts in History

Julie Nicoletta, SIAS faculty, attended APCC to follow-up on 1503 for Bachelor of Arts in History. Previous APCC comments from Dec. 2017 submission:

"APCC committee members support humanities and interdisciplinary options, but have concerns about the multiplicity and the logistics of course fill rates across 9 options. Also, they are concerned that the students might be confused with the number of options and advising might be difficult. APCC chose not to rush into a decision about this program change proposal and would like to invite the curriculum proposers for further interaction, dialogue, and collaboration for a solution. For instance, perhaps, the number of options can be pared down by phasing out some of the older options."

These comments from APCC were appreciated. Faculty took this advice went back to fewer options; replacing geographic options with the thematic options and also have a general history option. Students would now choose a general history major including the 30 credits of core and then 30 remaining credits of course work for the major or do one of the four thematic options under the now resubmitted 1503. Core courses remain unchanged; integrating major with other majors in SIAS. APCC liked the clarity in the resubmitted 1503.

Some questions:

- Do students know what courses are offered when? Response: History majors- yes they do. Tight on faculty for teaching non History majors, reasons include faculty partial teaching, some with course releases, sabbaticals, but this move will be better than current options. General history option gives more flexibility.
- Are there enough faculty to meet demand? Response: Yes, this option not tied to one faculty.
- APCC noted this submission is an inspiration for other units to do this hard work.

Due to a late 1503 submission for this meeting, APCC voted to amend the agenda to allow voting on this 1503; motion was made by Robin Evans- Agnew, seconded by Evelyn Shankus, 9 approved.

B. 1503 CSS Honors

Donald Chinn, SET, addressed feedback from APCC regarding the CSS Honors 1503; a letter was sent to APCC from Donald Chinn and Monika Sobolewska addressing the APCC feedback and asking for discussion at this APCC meeting.

Chinn touched on four points:

1. The previous language of “one faculty adviser” which concerned APCC, as being not best practice-
 - Wording will now read: *The faculty adviser must be a full-time CSS faculty member. If a student is working on a research project in another unit or with a part-time faculty, they must have a full-time CSS faculty member approve the project and sign off on the thesis and presentation. In the rare instance where the advisor is not able to work with the student for the entire time, another faculty member within the same area of research as the original advisor can become the advisor.*
2. Honors designation only filled out at graduation- how would students know they can get this?
 - Wording will now read: *Applications should be submitted at the beginning of the quarter in which the student will have completed all of the required courses to earn the honors designation.*
3. Concern from APCC about whether students would have access to the faculty they need – what if faculty does not want to work with a student?
 - Suggestion: have faculty look at proposals together to determine resources/diversity/workflow needed, acknowledge some students may feel uncomfortable approaching faculty.
4. Concerns about wording of “well-written, clearly presented document,” does this provide an issue for some students where English is not the first language?
 - Suggestion: look at Writing Advisory Council proposal – address that in this proposal with a developed plan and bring back to APCC.
- APCC Chair Menaka Abraham suggested members send her any more questions and/or feedback to be forwarded to Chinn; this proposal will return to APCC in March.

Possible future discussion: APCC may need to take look at how honors programs are structured on the UWT campus, how do honors programs work? Is there a system of privilege and how to assure best access for greatest number of students?

C. 1503 Bachelors of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

Course will no longer be offered at UWT due to the departure of the faculty who developed and taught this course in previous years. There is currently no faculty with expertise to teach this course on campus. Proposal to replace with TPSYCH 265 Motivational Basis for Behavior, which is offered multiple times in the academic year and more importantly has course learning objectives that fit well with the learning objectives of the major.

- Not a core course, only a pre-requisite, 100 and 200 level courses.
- This is a function of APCC to allow for faculty to tend and care for their areas; APCC can expect to see more of these course changes
- From HR perspective: want people in pipeline- bad practice if one faculty leaves and everything dissipates. Internal planning- dean level issue of who can facilitate a course.

Suggestion: Perhaps unit should go through all courses for other vulnerable areas and consolidation?

- Starting course in winter so time is urgent.
- Menaka will provide APCC feedback to the unit to look for alternative teaching and other vulnerable courses

A motion to amend the agenda to also add this 1503 was made by Robin Evans-Agnew, seconded by LeAnne Laux-Bachand, second, 9 approved, 0 no, 0 abstain.

A motion to approve 1503s for Bachelor of Arts in History and Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability was made by Jeff Cohen, seconded by Robin Evans-Agnew, 9 approved, 0 no, 0 abstain.

IV New Course Proposals

TMATH 499- Undergrad Research in Mathematics

- As author, Ruth Vanderpool abstained from discussion or vote
- QSR: need generic learning objectives, can't move forward without it, required to be generic. Without could be will denied by Seattle
- APCC Recommendation: Add learning objectives

TMATH 342- Applied Topology

- As author, Ruth Vanderpool abstained from discussion or vote

TFILM 487 Cinema, Time and Memory

- APCC comments: Submission well-articulated, looks great
- APCC Recommendation: Reword syllabus (can't ask for documentation for missed classes) and submit

TSOC 365 Adv. Sociological Theories of Race and Ethnicity

- Statements on late work, missed classes need to be rewritten
- Add learning objectives
- Ethnicity spelled wrong
- No curricular relationships on this course but Seattle does has a sociology dept.
- APCC Recommendation: Rewrite pieces on late work, missed class, add learning objectives and resubmit

TEGL 306 Indigenous Peoples of Pacific

- Course description wording different and confusing but could be due to a limit in Quali on how many sentences can fit in box, can cause mismatch
- Course advertised for grad students but a 300 course; should not be advertising this as a class for grad students.
- Has Diversity request but may not meet requirements as defined; how does this focus on diversity in the US? Consider parameters for diversity that APCC has outlined and incorporate some of that language more explicitly so there's no question that it aligns
- APCC Recommendation: Provide clarity to make the Diversity designation, explain and rewrite, should not be a graduate course offering, resubmit

DTLAX 333 US Latino Histories

- Diversity paperwork is skimpy, would like to see some supporting documentation, but is in syllabus

Discussion: making work for faculty members or is this documentation important for APCC future reviews and assessments of diversity courses?

- APCC Recommendation: ready for approval with changes

V Course Change Proposals

TLAW 438 Federal Environmental Law

- (adding Federal to title)

TMATH 499, TMATH 342, TFILM 487, TEGL 306, DTLAX 333, TLAW 438 were approved with recommended changes on a motion from Jeff Cohen, seconded by Jarek Sierchynski: 7 approved, 0 no, 1 abstain.

VI Grad Petition

SP19 Grad petition: asking for substitutes for both language courses.

- There has been discussion about offering American Sign Language to accommodate students, but not available on campus at this time.
- Petition does have endorsement supporting this language waiver.

APCC members approved this SP19 petition, formal motion not needed.

VII Policy Issues & Other Business

A. WAC Report – Writing Advisory Committee

WAC member Jeff Cohen presented the report to APCC.

WAC surveyed over 170 students, over 50 faculty and staff over all units in a third iteration to get input on writing courses.

Similar to R & S, tried to balance central top down understanding of what good writing practice is to create a model giving the ability to each unit to define their own standards in conjunction with included writing pedagogy for help and training; submit to APCC for approval, and assess models (like diversity) in units every three years against their own self standards. Asking for APCC and Executive Council to back this and invest capital in getting this down.

WAC outlined a process for evaluation with recommendations for academic units- class sizes, etc. and also created suggested charges for the next Writing Advisory Committee and recommendations for campus support.

Robin Evans-Agnew noted that this is what APCC wanted for units and stressed the need to give academic units time to think about it and come back with comments.

As Executive Council charged WAC to do this work, their vote is not needed, but should go before them for comment and to take back to their units.

Recommend at major level- what do students at this particular major need in terms of writing.

Menaka Abraham suggested APCC members take this back to their units to review for what this will look like for their unit.

New WAC member need to carry on and provide training and workshops for units. Jeff Cohen will follow up with original members to see who would be interested in helping guide units with this.

Next phase of work is in the units: March 2019: APCC should receive drafts of unit framework. Robin Evans-Agnew suggested it could be a two meeting process: 1st meeting: to outline and assemble resources and a 2nd meeting to review and consolidate these by unit and then provide them to APCC.

Serin Anderson suggested bringing library resources on board for help.

Robin Evans-Agnew made a motion to approve the WAC plan, LeAnn Laux-Bachand seconded the motion; 7 approved, 0 no, 0 abstain.

B. S & R Designations

Some members of APCC to work with them to see this process through? In suggested process: Research one troubling, Manaka: asking to let units decide what research looks like for them

APCC should make units aware that it is not APCC's intention that every course that has a research project be given an undergraduate research designation, specific to high impact practices, be thoughtful when you make policies.

Not enough time to make decisions during fall quarter.

Due to Carnegie application, there is a desire for the S designation to be completed first.

Suggestion to take spirit of this back to units for discussion, but bringing both WAC and S&R to academic units together could result in faculty fatigue. WAC first as it was tasked by this committee specifically?

R & S designations only on time schedule, not in areas of knowledge. Units could decide for themselves.

No APCC action taken at this time.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:05pm.

Due to time constraints, the following agenda items were not discussed:

- Summer Update
- Double Formal Options Committee Update
- UWCC Update and sign up for meetings- will send email- asking for availability to attend Senate meetings on Seattle campus. (*J. Heller has agreed to attend 10/16/18,*)

The next APCC meeting will be November 14, 2018 and will focus only on PNOI.

A second November meeting will be held November 28, 2018.