
Undergraduate Studies Council

Minutes of 14 February 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Undergraduate Studies Council was called to order at 3:04 p.m. on 14 February 2023 via Webex video conferencing by Diane Riggs, chair

Members in Attendance: Said Abubakr, Jessica Birnbaum, Carrie Cumming, Lori Gray, Irma Lopez, Dawn Mason, Susan Piazza, Diane Riggs, Scott Slawinski, Sue Steuer, Nicolas Witschi

Members Absent: Clifton Ealy, Carly Hagins, Sam Longlet, Jill Rowe

Advisory Members Present: Colleen Stano, Edwin Martini

Ex Officio: Lisa DeChano-Cook

Guest: Susan Carlson, Associate Professor, Sociology

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

An amendment was made to remove the Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Change and Development proposal under New Business.

[MOTION] It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Abubakr, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Abubakr, to approve the 10 January 2023 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Riggs did not provide a report

Ex Officio DeChano-Cook announced that in remembrance of those lost and impacted by the MSU shooting, WMU will hold a vigil at 11 a.m. on 15 February in the Bernhard Center North Ballroom, and attendees are encouraged to wear green and white.

Reports of University Representatives

Witschi did not provide a report.

Martini did not provide a report.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Abubakr presented the Certificate in Printing and Graphic Science curriculum proposal and the benefits this certificate will provide for students. It allows WMU to recognize students' learning in this area. DeChano-Cook asked about the Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) and suggested a minor revision to the verb "appreciate" so that it is measurable. Said agreed to make the following changes to the proposal:

1. Change the learning outcome to say, "apply relationships between substrates and inks in particular printing processes."
2. Revise the PAPR 4990 course from a two-credit independent study to a one-credit course so that the total certificate credits equal 15.

A motion was made to amend the Certificate in Printing and Graphic Science with two recommended revisions.

[MOTION] It was moved by Slawinski, seconded by DeChano-Cook, to approve the Certificate in Printing and Graphic Science curriculum proposal as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Carlson presented the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Studies Accelerated Graduate Degree Program (AGCP) curriculum proposal to the Graduate Studies Council at an earlier date and received positive feedback. Slawinski asked about the accelerated part of the catalog copy, as it does not share the entire program requirements. Chair Riggs shared that it is not clear whether specific courses are required or if it is an understanding between advisors and students. Ex Officio DeChano-Cook shared that the related Sociology program has six courses that a student would have to take for the accelerated graduate degree program, which seems confusing for students who might misinterpret this and think they only need to take these four courses for the master's degree program. Chair Riggs read the summary of the new program proposal for committee consideration. Ex Officio DeChano-Cook asked for an additional statement at the bottom of the catalog copy, "*Students must complete the requirements of the Master's in Arts in Criminal Justice*". Mason asked if these are allowed to be double-counted, and Cummings clarified that they are when they are approved by the advisor, and once the degree is awarded, the registrar's office will add those credits back into the Undergraduate degree GPA while also counting them towards the graduate degree GPA. A motion was made to consider the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Studies AGCP with the proposed amendment statement.

[MOTION] It was moved by Slawinski, seconded by Cummings to consider the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Studies AGCP as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Carlson left the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Abubakr, seconded by Birnbaum, to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Undergraduate Studies Council will meet next on 14 March 2023 at 3 p.m. via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Susan Piazza, Secretary

Minutes approved on 14 March 2023.