UW-Madison University Academic Planning Council
Minutes of June 25, 2012 meeting

Members present: Cadwallader, DeLuca, Dunek, Graham, Green, Hitchon, Jacobs, Kalil, Oakley, Potter, Sandefur, Schaefer, Shokler, Straub

Members absent: Schaefer, Ward


1. Welcome, introductions, opening announcements.

2. Automatic Consent – Minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting. UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.01

The minutes were approved with slight typographic corrections.

3. Approval Item – Undergraduate-level certificate in Engineering Thermal Energy Systems, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering. UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.02

Steve Cramer, associate dean, College of Engineering, and Sanford (Sandy) A. Klein, professor of Mechanical Engineering, presented a proposal to create an undergraduate-level certificate in Engineering Thermal Energy Systems. They described this proposal as a targeted certificate to provide a credential to 20 students a year in a specific area where UW-Madison’s current faculty and research are strong. The 18-credit certificate would allow for nine of the credits of coursework required by the student’s major to count towards the certificate, as well as nine credits of technical electives in areas such as mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, and nuclear engineering. The technical electives are some of the more difficult courses within Engineering, and this certificate will allow students formal recognition on their transcript for completing this rigorous coursework.

UAPC members had questions about the career trajectory of students with this certificate, as well as how it compares to the coursework required for a master’s degree. Prof. Klein explained that these students are likely to go on to working in energy industries, for companies such as Johnson Controls or Trane. The certificate would serve both students who planned to go on to graduate school and those who were going to the workforce after their bachelor’s degree.

**Motion:** To approve the creation of an undergraduate-level certificate in Engineering Thermal Energy Systems, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering.

Motioned, seconded, unanimous approval.

4. Approval Item – Joint Review of the MA-Gender and Women’s Studies, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, College of Letters and Sciences. UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.03, UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.04.

Jacquie Hitchon, UAPC member and chair of the review committee, presented an overview of the joint review of the MA-Gender and Women’s Studies Program. Professor Hitchon said that the committee was enthusiastic about the program, which has high intellectual content, a tremendous range of course options, but does not duplicate other programs available on-campus or within the state.

Professor Jane Collins, chair of the Gender and Women’s Studies department, answered questions with regards to the number of students the program accepts (currently around 7 out of 30 applicants each year), and stated that students are progressing through the program nicely.

Funding students continues to be a concern for the program, though they are able to fund all students for at least one of their two years, and the review committee discussed ways to find resources for the graduate student coordinator.

In the future, if resource constraints are alleviated, it is possible a doctoral program could be created, and GFEC was open to this possibility in their discussion of the joint review.
5. Approval Item – Joint Review of the Doctor of Audiology, Department of Communicative Disorders, College of Letters and Sciences.  UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.05, UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.06.

Ken Potter, UAPC member and chair of the review committee, presented an overview of the joint review of the Doctor of Audiology program. This program is a joint program with UW-Stevens Point, and the review committee had both UW-Madison and UW-Stevens Point representatives on the committee. The program has enthusiastic support, and the creation of a clinical doctorate was in-line with accreditation standards, which required a clinical doctorate by 2012. There is abundant evidence of success and goals met within the program, with 50 students graduated, matching the goal, and 49 of those graduates employed within the profession. All graduates have passed their certification exams. This is the only training program for audiologists in Wisconsin, and significant growth in the profession is projected.

The review committee strongly recommended the program continues. Two issues arose during the joint review process. The joint review committee and others felt that the program should be administered by the graduate school as opposed to the College of Letters & Science. This change is supported and currently underway, with GFEC approving the move to the graduate school. Issues with authorization were discussed, as the program currently has a single authorization for the joint degree from the Board of Regents (other joint programs in the UW System have a separate authorization for each location). UW-Madison suggested seeking two separate authorizations, one for each institution, but some felt that this would erode the partnership in place, and that proposal was withdrawn.

The program would like to increase enrollments, but this is difficult given the intensive clinical training and faculty supervision required. UW-Stevens Point is hiring some faculty members, which may increase enrollment at UW-Stevens Point.

Motion: To accept the Joint Review of the Doctor of Audiology and approve continuation of the program.

Motioned, Seconded, Unanimous Approval.

6. Annual Report – Annual report from the Undergraduate General Education Committee (UGEC).  UAPC Doc 2012.06.25.07.

Elaine Klein, UGEC chair and assistant dean in the College of Letters and Science presented an annual report from the Undergraduate General Education Committee (UGEC). Klein presented an overview of the functions of UGEC and background on our general education requirements. Current projects include a study of the Communication A writing literacy component, a study of the Communication A information literacy component, and an evaluation of the essential learning outcomes in Ethnic Studies courses.

Jim Wollack, chair of the UGEC assessment and research subcommittee and professor of Educational Psychology, presented preliminary findings on the assessment of the Comm-A writing literacy component. Artifacts of student work were collected from a freshman course, “A Wisconsin Experience Seminar”. Writing samples were collected from students at the beginning and the end of the semester and then were scored using a common rubric. The findings were mixed, and limited by the nature of the study. However, overall the findings suggest that efforts to identify students who are exempted from Comm-A are working and that the Comm-A course requirement has a positive effect on student learning with respect to improved writing literacy. Lessons learned from the study will be useful in the design of subsequent rubric-based assessments.

Motion: To accept the annual report from the Undergraduate General Education Committee.
Motioned, Seconded, Unanimous Approval.

In addition to written and oral communication skills, the development of information literacy is a learning goal of the Comm-A requirement. The language associated with the information literacy learning goals dates from 1994 and no longer represents a contemporary view of information literacy. Thus, the UGEC sought the support of the UAPC to make the following change to the Comm-A requirement in relation to information literacy.

Replace the 1994 language:

Information Seeking Skills and Strategies
A. Identifying and retrieving source materials needed to evaluate, organize, and select information from print and electronic sources
B. Acquiring basic critical, technical, and mechanical skills needed to find relevant information

With the following updated language:

Information Seeking Skills and Strategies
A. Develop and adapt information seeking strategies in order to access information effectively
B. Evaluate and information retrieved and select information sources appropriate to the particular research needed

Motion: To approve the request to replace the 1994 language with updated language.

Motioned, Seconded, Unanimous Approval

7. Information Item – The certificate guidelines as approved earlier at the April UAPC meeting are posted and available to the University community. See http://www.apa.wisc.edu/UAPC/uapccertificates.html

8. Information Item – The guidelines for suspending or discontinuing degree/major programs approved at the May UAPC meeting are posted and available to the University community. See http://www.apa.wisc.edu/UAPC/uapcchangestoprograms.html

9. Information Item – The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012. Some tentative agenda items for 2012-13 include a review and restructuring of the policy and process associated with academic program approvals to align with changes being made at UW System and the Board of Regents, and to account for some new US Department of Education requirements.

10. Information Item – Thank you to UAPC members Gary Green and Daniel Schaefer who are completing their four-year terms. Thanks also to Linda Graham who is completing her one-year term as the University Committee member who serves on the UAPC. Laura Dunek and Jeff Shokler announced they were reappointed for the next academic year.

Meeting adjourned, 5:00PM