UW-Madison University Academic Planning Council
Minutes of December 19, 2013 meeting

Members Present: Aldag, Blair, Cadwallader, Chen, DeLuca (chair), Dunek, Fair, Howard, Oakley, Scholz, Seidenberg, Thelen

Members Excused: Blank, Eriksson, Shokler,


1. Welcome and introductions. Provost DeLuca invited all present to introduce themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA


Laura Dunek asked that the minutes be revised to reflect the conversation related to informing departments directly about their programs being due for program review.

Approved, Automatic Consent.

3. Automatic Consent – Capstone Certificate in Infant Early Childhood and Family Mental Health, Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine and Public Health. This was approved by Graduate Faculty Executive Committee meeting on December 13. Instruction in the program will be predominately on-site (not a distance-education program); this will be a program-revenue program under the Educational Innovations guidelines. UAPC Doc 2013.12.19.02

Approved, Automatic Consent.

APPROVAL ITEMS

4. Approval – Notice of Intent for an undergraduate major in Neurobiology, associated with the College of Letters & Science BS and BA degrees, Department of Zoology, College of Letters & Science. Presenters: Eric Wilcots, associate dean, College of Letters & Science; Jeff Hardin, chair of the Department of Zoology. (Note on program review: The most recent Biology major review was completed in 2012-13. Reviews for programs in Zoology, last completed in 1999-00, are currently underway.) UAPC Doc 2013.12.19.03

After the review of the Biology major last year it was decided that the neurobiology option of the biology major could better serve students as a stand-alone major. Course opportunities for the neurobiology option are expanding and the structure of the Biology major puts certain constraints on the curriculum. Separating the option from the Biology major would allow for
the inclusion of a number of courses that would not otherwise fit within the Biology major. This proposal will establish a new Neurobiology major under the auspices of the Department of Zoology. A number of core courses for neurobiology are taught by Zoology and it is the administrative home for the L&S portion of the Biology major.

If approved the new major would be implemented and enroll students in the fall of 2015. The neurobiology option of the Biology major would be phased out after the new major is in place. It will be structured in a way that will allow students who so choose, to transition from the option to the major.

The creation of a Neurobiology major is supported by the CALS/L&S Joint APC and the School of Medicine and Public Health.

Going forward the details of the major will be worked out, administrative processes will be put in place, the full curriculum will be laid out, and an assessment plan will be created. An advising position for Biological Aspects of Conservation, Molecular Biology and this major will be created. A request for authorization to implement the major will likely be brought to UAPC for approval in fall 2014.

Once approved, the Notice of Intent will be circulated to all UW institutions for comment, in keeping with UW System Board of Regent policy.

**Moved (Chen), Seconded (Scholz) Approved unanimously.**


N. Saldivar presented a proposal to restructure the Arts Institute using a model similar to the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. Reorganizing the Arts Institute has been under discussion in various formats for some time. The Executive Committee of the Arts believes that the evolution of arts education is imperative for the growth and sustainability of existing programs and advancing the arts at UW-Madison.

Under this proposal the director would report directly to the provost instead of through the deans of Letters and Science, Human Ecology and Education (the current administrative home). Dean Underwood added that this gives voice to the arts at a level it hasn’t had before; it elevates the arts on campus and gives it a focal point.

The departments and programs that are connected with the Arts Institute will remain in their schools/college homes. While the proposed model has features that are similar to the Nelson Institute, the Arts Institute would not be a tenure home and would (at least initially) not have its own courses. If the Institute were to ever seek to offer majors or courses it would need to partner with another academic unit that has the authority for offering a degree program and/or courses. The Institute would create and do field work on issues that cross the boundaries of the schools and colleges and develop partnerships that deal with social
awareness, social science, psychology. In the future they may create certificate programs and elective courses that cross disciplines.

Saldivar explained that students are looking for interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary courses. This is an area of growth that this institute would pursue. The Arts Institute would be the administrative home for the Arts Learning Community, a residential learning community for undergraduates. Currently this learning community has 60 students who live in Sellery Hall. The majority of these students are not majoring in arts programs. Businesses are interested in hiring graduates who are creative and programs like this infuse creativeness in the learning experience. There is a movement across the country to attract partners from outside academia to provide practical arts-based experiences for students and this is a role that the Arts Institute can fill. The reorganized Arts Institute fits well with the goals of Educational Innovation and opportunities for fund-raising and development.

Among the purposes of the Arts Institute would be the support of faculty and guest artists and outreach. The goals of the Arts Institute include offering ways to coordinate and create efficiencies and to create services to help people interact with the arts on campus. Some of the ways it might do this include developing ways of streamlining ticketing, communicate about the arts, bring together partners across campus in a systematized way, and assist constituent units in building audiences and programs.

To make this restructuring work, more resources will need to be devoted to the Arts Institute as it expands its sphere of operation and influence. It will need a budget of $600,000 - 800,000, which means approximately $450,000 in additional funding. Previously the School of Education shouldered an unfair portion of the administrative costs. There is a significant amount of philanthropy that is expected to be available to a restructured Arts Institute.

Three letters of support that were not a part of the original agenda materials were distributed at the meeting. The additional letters were from: Karl Scholz, dean of the College of Letters & Science; Thomas Dale, chair of the Department of Art History; and Susan Cook, director of the School of Music.

The specific elements of the restructuring proposal to be approved by the UAPC are:

1. Establish the Arts Institute as an independent division. As such the Arts Institute director will report directly to the Provost, participate on the Deans’ Council, and manage the Arts Institute’s budget and personnel functions, fundraising and development, and arts outreach.

2. For purposes of governance, faculty will establish formal association with the Arts Institute as either “Affiliated Faculty” or “Governance Faculty,” in keeping with Faculty Policies and Procedures (FP&P).

3. Establish an Executive Committee comprised of the tenured members of the Governance Faculty, with the authority comparable to that of a department executive committee.

4. Establish Executive Leadership Council of the Governance Faculty, comprised at launch of the chairs of the participating departments and with subsequent membership
of 6 to 9, to be chaired by the Director of the Institute, and to include no more than two members from any participating unit.

5. Establish an Academic Affairs Committee chaired by the Director and comprised of 6 to 9 members, with no more than two from any single department. This committee will oversee activities associated with curriculum, research, and arts awards.

Moved (Dunek), Seconded (Chen) Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned, 4:40 pm.