

Academic Policies Committee

Minutes

28 November 2016

Approved: 17 February 2017

**In Attendance:** Nancy Pence, Jennifer Heidorn, Donna Haley, Emily Hipchen, Shelly Elman, Cheryl O. Brown, Debra MacComb, David Jenks, Emily McKendry-Smith, Robert Kilpatrick

- I. Minutes
  - a. The minutes from the 31 October 2016 meeting were approved without corrections.
  
- II. Hardship Withdrawal Policy: distinguishing policy from procedure
  - a. Rules committee is working on this; we will wait until they have completed their work
  - b. APC will work on this by creating a Google Document that all members have access to
  
- III. Issues related to minors
  - a. Emily Hipchen and Debra MacComb will join Shelly Elman on this subcommittee.
  
- IV. Policy for sharing of courses between programs
  - a. David Jenks noted that there is a conflict in policy regarding the sharing of courses in Area F.
    - i. Minors cannot share courses with majors.
    - ii. Area F courses can be shared with majors.
    - iii. Double majors can partially share Area F between the two majors; the way the policy is currently written, there is a conflict if double majors can share Area F.
  - b. Shelly Elman noted that Area F is peculiar to the USG. Other state institutions have a core that can be shared for students who are double majoring.
  - c. David Jenks stated that the BOR is not proscriptive in their guidance regarding sharing courses in Area F. However, SACS requires curricular coherence, where there is a coherent curriculum across the entirety of majors. The BOR wants the curriculum to be clear and concise and for concepts to be introduced, reinforced, and mastered.
  - d. Robert Kilpatrick discussed the Area F foreign language courses. They include the foundational courses for language majors – 1002 and 2001, elementary 2 and intermediate 1.
  - e. Robert also noted that language majors need to take up to 2001 in a second language. For example, a German concentration student would need to take 3 semesters of Spanish. A student double majoring in two foreign languages would share Area F.
  - f. David Jenks noted that everything needs to be laid out as neat and cleanly as possible. The policy as currently written doesn't lead to sharing anything. Currently, everything is put in a petition and made an exception. Policies need to align with our procedures.

- g. David also noted that the possibility for double majoring helps build programs. In Texas, when many students go into the same double majors, they have created one interdisciplinary degree. At UWG, it is almost impossible to double major in biology and chemistry. Chemistry doesn't accept anything that counts for the Bio degree, but Bio is willing to accept. However, Chemistry is accredited by an external body and Bio isn't.
  - h. Robert suggests that while following the rules, we should offer students the greatest degree of flexibility.
  - i. David noted that we need to not disadvantage students and to find a solution that doesn't negatively affect anyone. The new policy is needed ASAP, but we need to take time and get the policy right.
  - j. Donna Haley noted that we need to make sure the new policy does not create a need for exceptions.
  - k. Robert mentions the current issue of courses counting in Area F and in the major for foreign language BAs. Is there a restriction against counting courses in Area F and in the major? Language courses with the 2002 course number can be applied to Area F for BAs and are also major requirements for degrees in foreign languages.
  - l. Robert will be joining our already existing subcommittee, which will be taking up this issue as well.
  - m. Shelly Elman mentions that we will need to acquire a list of double major policies and David Jenks notes that he can track this down.
- V. Timing of student grade appeals process
- a. Michelle Frazier Trotman Scott has contact the Faculty Senate with concerns about the length of time it takes for grade appeals.
  - b. David Jenks notes that in the last 5 years, there has only been 1 case of a reversed grade in the grade appeals committee.
  - c. Donna Haley notes that by the time students receive the grade that they are appealing, they are usually pre-registered for courses already.
  - d. Since this issue seems to be internal to the College of Education, we believe that is the best place for it to be addressed.
- VI. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM.