Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2020

Approved February 21, 2020

1. Call to Order

Chair Butler called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

    Present:

Barbour, Bertau, Besnosov, Boumenir, Branyon (sub. Willox), Cheng, Chwialkowska, Dahms, Dutt, Elman, Faucette, Fuentes, Gault, Geyer, Gezon, Gordon, Green, Hansen, Hodges, Hong, Ivory, Kellison, Khodkar, Kimbrel, Koczkas, Lanier, McKendry-Smith, MacKinnon, McLean, Miller, Moon, Morris, Neely, Nickell, Ogletree, Pashia, Pazzani, Pencoe, Pidhainy, Remshagen, Richter, Scullin, Self (sub. Breckling), Sterling, Tweraser, Wadlington

    Absent:

Rebber, Rees, Taylor, Towhidi, Wang

3. Minutes

    A) December 6, 2019 meeting minutes were approved electronically on December 12, 2019

4. Committee Reports

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee (Nick Sterling, Chair)

Action Items:

    A) College of Arts and Humanities

        1) Department of English and Philosophy

            a) [Accelerated Bachelor's to Masters (ABM) in English](#)

                Request: Modify

            b) [Accelerated Bachelor's to Masters (ABM) in English, Education Track](#)

                Request: Modify

Items a-b were taken as a block and approved unanimously.

            c) [ENGL 2000 - American Speech](#)

                Request: Delete

Item approved unanimously.

            d) [PHIL 3105 - Medieval to Early Modern Philosophy](#)

Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

      e) PHIL 3115 - Political Philosophy

         Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

      f) PHIL 3180 - Moral Theories

         Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

  B) College of Science and Mathematics

    1) Department of Biology

      a) BIOL 1011 - Biology of Human Reproduction

         Request: Delete

Item approved unanimously.

      b) BIOL 4730 - Emerging Pathogens

         Request: Modify

Item approved unanimously.

    2) Department of Computer Science

      a) Computer Science, B.S.

         Request: Modify

Item approved unanimously.

      b) Data Science Certificate

         Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

      c) CS 1301 - Computer Science I

         Request: Modify

      d) CS 1302 - Computer Science II

         Request: Modify

Items c-d were taken as a block and approved unanimously.

      e) CS 4180 - Advanced Web Development

         Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

    f) CS 4275 - Machine Learning Foundations

       Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

   3) Department of Geosciences

    a) GEOG 4086 - Internship

       Request: Modify

Item approved unanimously.

   4) Department of Mathematics

    a) MATH 0996 - Support for Elementary Statistics

       Request: Add

    b) MATH 1401 - Elementary Statistics

       Request: Add

Items a-b were taken as a block and approved unanimously.

Committee II: Graduate Programs Committee (Ben Geyer, Chair)

Action Items:

  A) College of Education

   1) Department of Communication Sciences and Professional Counseling

    a) CEPD 9151 - Doctoral Independent Study

       Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

  B) College of Social Sciences

   1) Department of Anthropology

    a) ANTH 6175 - Southeastern Archaeology and Ethnohistory

       Request: Add

Item approved unanimously.

Information Items:

  A) College of Education

   1) Department of Leadership, Research, and School Improvement

    a) Educational Leadership, M.Ed.

       Request: Delete

       Rationale

There are no students in the program, and Academic Affairs requested this action.

B) College of Social Sciences

    1) Department of Sociology

        a) Sociology, M.A.

        Request: Modify

        These modifications update and change several items in the "Admission" section of the catalog description for the MA in Sociology. A description of the admission process has been added, as well as more concise language describing what is expected in applicants' 750 word personal statement. Revised language also notes the implementation a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 for admission to the MA, the removal of the GRE requirement, and the possibility of provisional admission. Finally, they now request a resume or curriculum vitae as part of the application process, and informs applicants that in addition to going to the website, they must visit the "Admissions" tab.

C) Tanner Health System School of Nursing

    1) Doctorate in Nursing Education Program

    Request: Modify

    These modifications update the Ed.D. program admission criteria based upon relevancy and assist with program recruitment. No changes to program learning outcomes have taken place.

    2) Master of Science in Nursing, post-master's certificate – all role options

    Request: Modify

    These modifications update the MSN program post-master's certificate admission criteria based upon relevancy and assist with program recruitment. No changes to program learning outcomes have taken place.

    3) Masters of Science in Nursing – all role options

    Request: Modify

    These modifications update the MSN program admission criteria based upon relevancy and assist with program recruitment. No changes to program learning outcomes have taken place.

Committee III: Academic Policies Committee (Agnieszka Chwialkowska, Chair)

Information Item: (Figure 1)

> A) Sustainability Courses and Attribute Designation in Banner
>
> *Not only is there growing interest from the student body in environmental sustainability and courses in this area, but designating courses with sustainability content enables us to alert students of their availability, raise awareness and interest in this campus core value, and help publicize and track UWG's sustainability efforts. Furthermore, tracking these courses will enable campus stakeholders to easily inventory and compile information needed for sustainability reports, assessments, as well as build and manage a BIS major, minor, and/or certificate in sustainability.*

Committee IV: Rules Committee (Anja Remshagen, Chair)

Action Items:

> I) UWG *Faculty Handbook*
>
> > 9) 103, Procedures and Criteria for Promotion and Tenure
> >
> > > a) 103.0403, Specific Minimum Criteria for the Award of Tenure (Figure 2)
> > >   Request: Modify

Item approved unanimously.

> J) UWG Academic Affairs Policies Index
>
> > 1) UWG Procedure 2.3.2, Criteria for Tenure (Figure 3)
> >   Request: Approve

Item approved unanimously.

Committee V: Diversity and Internationalization Committee (Angela Pashia, Chair)

Action Item:

> A) Resolution on Curricular Diversity in the Core (Figure 4)

Item approved unanimously.

5. Old Business

Chair-Elect Insenga discussed the redesign efforts of the Faculty Senate website. She noted that the site is not only more user-friendly, but also will make it much easier to find items such as committee resolutions.

6. New Business

7. Announcements

A) Senate Liaison Reports

No Liaison reports.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Colleen Vasconcellos
Executive Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Figure 1

Sustainability Courses and Attribute Designation
University of West Georgia

Rationale: Why Designate Courses with Sustainability Content?

1) The designation will significantly help in accurately tracking courses with sustainability content. This is important as UWG assesses its sustainability credentials every three years using the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Educations' (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking and Rating System (STARS). A key component of this assessment survey entails offering an accurate inventory of sustainability related courses offered at UWG.
2) There is a growing interest in environmental sustainability by incoming students, yet it is a topic that is not captured in any one discipline or college. Course designations will alert students to the various courses that engage this increasingly important area of knowledge and skill building.
3) For students unaware of "sustainability", the designations will raise awareness of and interest in one of the core values at UWG.
4) It allows the institution to track sustainability related courses, which can be used to more easily build and manage a BIS major, minor or certificate in sustainability.
5) It counts as an "exemplary sustainability practice" in AASHE's STARS sustainability assessment system, which UWG uses to track and publicize its sustainability efforts.

APPROVED DESIGNATION

Sustainability Courses and Attribute Designation
University of West Georgia

UWG's Definition and Criteria of Sustainability Courses

For the purposes of designation sustainability courses, UWG will adopt the criteria established by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), of which UWG is a member. AASHE distinguishes between "sustainability focused" courses and "sustainability inclusive" courses. There would therefore be two distinct designations. The following is a direct excerpt from the AASHE's STARS Technical Manual:

> *A. Sustainability-focused courses (a.k.a. "sustainability courses")*
> *To count as sustainability-focused, the course title or description must indicate a primary and explicit focus on sustainability. This includes:*
>
> *● Foundational courses with a primary and explicit focus on sustainability (e.g., Introduction to Sustainability, Sustainable Development, Sustainability Science).*
>
> *● Courses with a primary and explicit focus on the application of sustainability within a field (e.g., Architecture for Sustainability, Green Chemistry, Sustainable Agriculture,*

Sustainable Business). As sustainability is an interdisciplinary topic, such courses generally incorporate insights from multiple disciplines.

● Courses with a primary and explicit focus on a major sustainability challenge (e.g., Climate Change Science, Environmental Justice, Global Poverty and Development, Renewable Energy Policy). The focus of such courses might be on providing knowledge and understanding of the problems and/or the tools for solving them.

The course title or description does not have to use the term "sustainability" to count as sustainability-focused if the primary and explicit focus of the course is on the interdependence of ecological and social/economic systems or a major sustainability challenge. If the course title and description do not unequivocally indicate such a focus, but it is evident from the course description or syllabus that the course incorporates sustainability challenges, issues, and concepts in a prominent way, the course may qualify as sustainability-inclusive (see below).

B. Sustainability-inclusive courses (a.k.a. "sustainability-related courses")

Courses that are not explicitly focused on sustainability may contribute towards scoring if sustainability has clearly been incorporated into course content. To count as sustainability-inclusive, the course description or rationale provided in the course inventory must indicate that the course incorporates a unit or module on sustainability or a sustainability challenge, includes one or more sustainability-focused activities, or integrates sustainability challenges, issues, and concepts throughout the course.

While a foundational course such as chemistry or sociology might provide knowledge that is useful to practitioners of sustainability, it would not be considered "sustainability-inclusive" unless the concept of sustainability or sustainability challenges and issues are specifically integrated into the course. Likewise, although specific tools or practices such as GIS (Geographic Information Systems) or engineering can be applied towards sustainability, such courses would not count unless the description or rationale provided in Banner clearly indicates that sustainability is integrated into the course.

Process for Approving Sustainability Courses:

1. Sustainability Designation committee (All faculty on the Sustainability Council) sends call for sustainability course proposals via all-faculty listserv.

2. Proposals will need to specify which sustainability designation is being sought and should contain a brief description of the course including an explanation of any learning outcomes, modules, or assignments that contribute to warranting a sustainability designation.

3. Committee reviews proposals and recommends those that meet approved criteria.

4. Committee chair sends the list of shortlisted classes/sections to the Faculty Senate Undergraduate Programs Committee (UPC) and Graduate Programs Committee (GPC), which is then sent to Faculty Senate for final approval.

5. Committee chair sends list of approved classes/sections to the Registrar for SFAD* or SIAD* attribute designation in Banner.

*SFAD=Sustainability Focused Attribute Designation
*SIAD=Sustainability Inclusive Attribute Designation

Figure 2

UWG Faculty Handbook

Modification of 103.0403 Specific Minimum Criteria for the Award of Tenure

Rationale: The wording has been updated to match the wording in Section 103.0302 Specific Minimum Criteria for Promotion of the Faculty Handbook.

APPROVED REVISED VERSION

103.0403 Specific Minimum Criteria for the Award of Tenure

1. **Teaching.** Same as criteria for promotion to Associate Professor
2. **Service.** Same as criteria for promotion to Associate Professor
3. **Academic Achievement.** Same as criteria for promotion to Associate Professor
4. **Professional Growth and Development.** Same as criteria for promotion to Associate Professor

Figure 3

UWG Academic Affairs Policies Index
Approval of UWG Procedure 2.3.2, Criteria for Tenure
Rationale: Currently no university procedure exists for the criteria for promotion.

APPROVED PROCEDURE

UNIVERSITY *of*
West Georgia.

UWG PROCEDURE NUMBER: 2.3.2, Criteria for Tenure
Authority: UWG POLICY 2.3, (Tenure)

The University of West Georgia (UWG) faculty, pursuant to the authority of UWG Policy 2.3, establishes the following procedures for compliance with UWG Policy 2.3 on Tenure:

The purpose of the procedure is to clearly communicate to the University of West Georgia faculty the minimum criteria for the award of tenure.

A. Definitions.

1. *Tenure* – Employment status that may be awarded to tenure-track faculty after the

   probationary period. Per BoR Policy 8.3.7.2: Institutional responsibility for employment of a tenured individual is to the extent of continued employment on a 100 percent workload basis for two out of every three consecutive academic terms until retirement, dismissal for cause, or release because of financial exigency or program modification as determined by the Board of Regents.

B. Procedure.
The minimum criteria for the award of tenure are the same as the minimum criteria for promotion to Associate Professor as specified in UWG Procedure 2.2.2.

C. Compliance.
UWG follows the Board of Regents policies on this matter, and to the extent the language conflicts, the Board of Regents language prevails. (BOR Academic and Student Affairs Handbook, 4.4 Award of Tenure and BOR Policy Manual, 8.3.7 Tenure and Criteria for Tenure)

Issued by the [title of person charged with writing procedure]*, the _____ day of _____, 2020.*

_____
Signature, [title of person charged with writing procedure]

Reviewed by President [or VP]: _____

Previous version dated: *N/A*

Figure 4

UWG Faculty Senate Resolution on Curricular Diversity in the Core

WHEREAS, the University of West Georgia states that inclusiveness is a core value that guides the mission and operations of the institution;

WHEREAS, understanding cultural differences will better prepare students for their careers and responsibilities as citizens;

WHEREAS, diversity in our core curriculum will contribute to achieving the University of West Georgia's strategic imperatives by attracting diverse faculty members to the institution, facilitating collaboration, encouraging community outreach, and increasing cultural sustainability; AND

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University of West Georgia ensure that revisions to the core curriculum require courses that engage substantially with a range of perspectives on race, class, gender, religion, nationality, ethnicity, and/or sexuality.