

**Minutes
Academic Council
March 1, 2016**

Present: Barnes, Barrios, Bratberg, Daly, Gathman, Hinkle, Humphrey, Jenkins, Kendrick, Kunkel, McAllister, McDougall, McGowan, Ortiz, Roeder, Rogers-Adkinson, and Suhr

Guests: Rachel Morgan Theall and Margaret Waterman

A. MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Gathman; seconded by Jenkins, the minutes of February 2, 2016, were unanimously approved.

B. ACTION ITEMS:

1. MNS Science Education Option – Title Change to MNS STEM Education

McGowan moved approval of the title change from MNS Science Education to MNS STEM Education; seconded by Gathman. McGowan explained that revisions to the MNS degree had been going on for about a year and a half. Morgan Theall explained the title change was made so as to include all departments in the College of Science, Technology, and Agriculture. In addition to the title change, the option was updated by dropping tracks that were not being used. Waterman added that the option was initially designed specifically for teachers but there have been non-education students in the program, so dropping the education tracks made sense. Gathman noted that the word “complimentary” in the proposal should be “complementary” – friendly amendment was made to the motion to make the change. Motion, with friendly amendment, passed unanimously.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. MNS Mathematics – Curriculum Revisions

McDougall suggested that the “Special Courses” on the updated program list move up to the Core and that, as GR603 is not a degree requirement but a course only for graduate assistants, it should possibly be a footnote, rather than listed with required courses; Daly acknowledged the suggestion. McGowan gave credit to the Math Department in revamping the program, and especially to Dan Daly, as he took the lead in the revisions. McDougall questioned the Non-Thesis Option in that it says a student must write a paper and take the comprehensive exam; Daly noted that all MNS students who opt for the Non-Thesis Option do both the paper and comps. Daly also explained that the current program is very theoretical and mainly for those planning to go on for a PhD in Math; however, the revised program is made to be more of a terminal degree.

2. Proposal to Rename the Department of Theatre and Dance to The Conservatory of Theatre and Dance

Kunkel explained that the Minor Academic Restructuring proposal to rename the Department of Theatre and Dance to The Conservatory of Theatre and Dance had completed the 30 day review period and was now considered approved. The Council received a handout of the three comments received during the review period. Kunkel explained that since none of the comments were inherently negative, that the proposal did not require Academic Council approval, but the comments were being shared for information. McDougall suggested that Kunkel speak to Faculty Senate Chair Carl Bloom to have the Faculty Handbook updated to asterisk the section on Academic Departments to include the word Conservatory, so as not to have to update the entire Handbook at each mention of the word Department.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Hinkle announced that a notice had gone out to faculty regarding Mid-Term Grades. Grading will open on Friday, March 4 at 5:00 p.m. and close on Monday, March 14 at 9:00 p.m.
Hinkle also announced that 1st 8 Week grading will open March 9 at 5:00 p.m. and close March 14; she will send a notice to faculty.
McDougall asked that Hinkle send the notice of missing grades on Friday, March 11, so faculty can be notified before leaving for Spring Break.
Barnes asked Gathman if the glitch in submitting grades in Moodle had been fixed; Gathman believed it had, but would check on it.

McDougall moved to adjourn; seconded by McGowan. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.