

**Minutes  
Academic Council  
May 3, 2016**

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

**Guests:** Suhair Amer, C.P. Gause, John Kraemer, Julie Ray

**A. MINUTES:**

Upon a motion by Gathman; seconded by McDougall, the minutes of April 5, 2016, were unanimously approved.

**B. ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. BSED Elementary Education – Curriculum Revisions**

Rogers-Adkinson moved approval of the curriculum revisions to the BSED in Elementary Education; seconded by McDougall. Ray explained that the program was revised to meet changing DESE requirements, including doing away with areas of concentration. The changes went into effect Fall 2015, and the department had students asking about Fine Arts electives. The department updated the curriculum, after speaking to the affected chairpersons, and added elective courses in Fine Arts. Daly pointed out that the course listed as MA128 should be MA228. Kendrick pointed out a grammatical error on the electives list. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. MA Teacher Leadership – Curriculum Revisions**

Rogers-Adkinson moved approval of the curriculum revisions to the MA in Teacher Leadership; seconded by Jenkins. Gause explained that the program has had extensive revisions due to changes in Teacher Leadership standards, and the elimination of the Variable Topics program in Summer 2016. The revisions give the program more breadth and depth, and allow more opportunities as it is an online program delivered nationally. Students can choose any 3 courses from the electives list, and advising will help the students narrow choices down. McDougall suggested the possibility of doing Options under the MA; Rogers-Adkinson responded that the department could discuss the possibility. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. EDS Educational Leadership Development – Program Title Change to EDS Teacher Leadership / Curriculum Revisions**

Rogers-Adkinson moved approval of the program title change from EDS Educational Leadership Development to EDS Teacher Leadership and curriculum revisions to the program; seconded by Gathman. Gause explained that with the elimination of the Variable Topics program, the curriculum was updated and aligned more to district level leadership. The program is online and delivered nationally. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science – New Program**

McGowan moved approval of a new Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science program; seconded by Jenkins. Kraemer explained that after being asked to put this new program together, he and others looked to see what other similar programs are offered, and found that only a few BS degrees are offered nationally. They surveyed regional interest and found most wanted an applications program, so they put the proposal together for a program that has applications and science and would be multidisciplinary. The only funding need is a recurring expense for GIS licensing. The face-to-face program will fulfill a role that is not currently being met. The GIS minor committee will serve as an advisory board. McDougall questioned whether the current GIS licensing software is adequate to serve

for research, and stated that the cost should be built into the proposal. Kraemer explained that they would like to go for campus wide licensing, but the cost is \$25,000 annually. McDougall and McAllister noted that the discussion came up in a recent Chairs Forum meeting that the campus wide licensing would be \$75,000, and McAllister has been asked to look into the actual cost. Kunkel advised that he wants accurate figures in the proposal. McDougall also questioned the enrollment figures; Kraemer explained that the proposal shows lower numbers than they expect but he will adjust them to show more accurate expectations. McDougall suggested that the program should maybe be Applied GIS, as the math in the proposal is at a high level; Kraemer explained that the program serves both applications and science. McGowan disagreed that the program should be Applied GIS and noted that programs that have high levels of math are growing. Kraemer further explained that he hopes to bring in new students with this program, and not just pull students from other programs. Suhr questioned if there are applied programs in Missouri; Kraemer advised that there are only certificates and minors in Applied GIS. Kunkel clarified that there are no new faculty needs, and Kraemer noted that there will be a new course in cartography offered by the Global Cultures and Languages department. Kunkel questioned whether there were any letters from industry to support the proposal; Kraemer will look into that. McDougall questioned whether any new library resources would be needed; Kraemer explained that no new resources were needed as they are able to use the library endowment. Hinkle pointed out that the curriculum is missing University Studies courses in Written Systems and Living Systems; Kraemer will correct that. A friendly amendment was made to the motion to include the missing courses. Motion, with friendly amendment, passed with one abstention.

#### **5. Master of Science in Applied Computer Science – New Program**

McGowan moved approval of a new Master of Science in Applied Computer Science program; seconded by Bratberg. McGowan explained Dr. Probst was unable to attend, but Suhair Amer was in attendance to speak to the proposal. Amer explained that the department had been working on the new program proposal for two years. The program is unique in that it is an applied program. Area employers have asked for the program, and the proposal includes letters of support. McGowan added that the program is structured to be an accelerated program. Daly questioned the drafts of syllabi and whether courses have been approved; Amer responded that they have not. McDougall pointed out that the wording on page 5 needed to be changed, as there is no “concentration” in the program. He also noted that all prerequisites should be listed. Daly questioned the numerous support letters from undergraduate students that seem to be done as a form letter, and only two letters from industry; Amer responded that the student support letters are to show that enrollment in the program should be significant – Kunkel stated this could be done through saying that the department had completed a survey and indicate a percentage of interest. Daly added that he had concerns with mistakes in the syllabi, including hours not adding up correctly. McAllister moved to table the proposal as the Council seems to have several issues with it, and until Dr. Probst could be in attendance to answer questions; seconded by Roeder/Gathman. Motion to table passed, with one nay.

#### **6. Online Courses and the University Calendar**

Gathman moved approval of the proposed statement for online courses following the University Calendar; seconded by Roeder. Gathman explained that questions regarding online courses and the expectations of when faculty assign work comes up frequently. It has been his practice to advise not to assign work during times that the University is closed. There have also been issues with second 8-week courses and faculty not opening their courses on the specified date. McDougall suggested rewording the last bullet to include the Regional Campuses, but noted that sometimes the regional campuses are closed when the main campus isn't and could be an issue. Schmidt stated he believes this should be in the Faculty Handbook, and questioned the second clause in the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet, regarding work to be submitted versus prep work and whether faculty could expect students to be prepared for class on the Monday following a break. Ortiz added that she is very happy to see such a statement being proposed, and agreed that she believes the statement should be in the Faculty Handbook, as many faculty don't know where to find procedures for online courses. Gathman will polish the document and send to Schmidt. After

discussion, Gathman amended his original motion to endorse the guidelines and sent to Faculty Senate for inclusion the Faculty Handbook; seconded again by Roeder. Ortiz asked if Gathman could send out a suggested guidelines for Summer 2016 faculty; Gathman will send something by email. Motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

**C. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**1. Minor Academic Restructuring Proposal – Renaming the Department of Global Cultures and Languages to the Department of Modern Languages, Anthropology and Geography**

Kunkel explained that the proposal is out on the Provost’s website for review until May 10<sup>th</sup>. There have been no significant comments received at this point.

**D. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Hinkle announced that at the Spring Commencement on May 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be a posthumous degree awarded to the family of a student that passed away last Fall.
2. Hinkle announced that she sent an email about final grading and asked that the Deans disperse the email within their colleges.
3. Weller-Stilson handed out a flyer for the River Campus Summer Arts Festival on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Admission is free and there will be art, music, and activities for all ages.

Kunkel thanked the group for their work this academic year, and noted that the Council is an important group and he appreciates their time and efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.