

INSTRUCTION COUNCIL

MINUTES

Thursday, October 5, 2023

126 ITLE or Zoom

<https://okstate-edu.zoom.us/j/96284911705?pwd=bkITQk5Kc08ydC9GVXJnU2FLaTg0Zz09>

PASSCODE: 596082

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

In attendance: Chad Blew, Larry Burns, Kyndal Campbell, Aaron Christensen, Cynda Clary, Andrew Doust, Craig Freeman, Richard Frohock, Jami Fullerton, Jeff Hartman, Sunderesh Heragu, Diane Jones, James Knecht, Marlys Mason, Chris Ormsbee, Rita Peaster, Jerry Ritchey, Adrienne Sanogo, Rebecca Sheehan, Candace Thrasher and Chris Francisco, Chair.

1. General Education Reform – Tammy Mix

Presentation by T. Mix is postponed until the October 19 Instruction Council (IC) meeting. C. Francisco opened the floor for discussion from the IC representatives of the General Education Working Group. C. Clary informed IC members that the draft document of Cowboy Compass is being reviewed, but there is no official feedback at this time. One question has been prevalent within the working group: how have our gen-ed courses been defined and what are their outcomes. C. Francisco explained gen-ed reform is still being considered by Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), and there is no real feel for the most likely course of action. He also added that our students must receive a broad foundation within the trails that have been discussed, and the University must develop a mechanism to show them the coherence of it.

General Education Reform discussion will continue at the October 19, 2023 meeting.

2. Final APR Discussion – Chris Francisco

The academic program review pilot peer review system will involve small teams of reviewers from each college. The program being reviewed can choose either reviewers from within their own college or outside their college. Externally accredited programs will not be required to complete the Additional Questions section. Faculty Council's Academic Standards and Policy Committee has been asked for feedback now and throughout this new APR process. Institutional Research and Analytics (IRA) has prepared the dashboard for this process. Templates for Curricular Analytics are being tested by C. Francisco. Videos and templates are being developed for curriculum and degree sheets. This process, which is more in line with what Higher Learning Commission expects from us, will begin next week.

3. Undergraduate Certificates Requiring a Bachelor's Degree – Chris Francisco

C. Francisco recently reviewed the list of undergraduate certificates requiring a bachelor's degree, and a large majority of them do not provide justification to require a bachelor's degree for the attainment of the certificate. It is important to be able to award students the certificate at the time of their completion of the program. C. Francisco asked IC members to verify with their units the justification needed for a bachelor's degree prior to being awarded the undergraduate certificate. Eliminating that requirement makes sense on many levels. As we start thinking about undergraduate certificates as part of gen-ed it is imperative to remove any unnecessary obstacles in the student's way. Also, we have an opportunity to change many of our minors to certificates, which will hold with it the benefit of being eligible for financial aid. Because certificates require notification only to the State Regents, we have the luxury of submitting them separately. For units who wish to change their minors to certificates, C. Francisco encouraged

their submission sooner rather than later. The topic of gainful employment was mentioned and C. Blew agreed that this matter could be very complicated, making it difficult to comply with student notification rules prior to enrollment. He will review this information at greater length and present at the 10-19-23 IC meeting.

Further clarification of certificates revealed undergraduate certificates can be declared at any time, but graduate certificates will continue to require application for acceptance to the certificate program. L. Burns mentioned an issue he has noticed - students declare a specific certificate program and remove their major while working on their certification. At that point in time, these students become non-degree seeking. Advisors should be assisting students with the declaration of the certificate.

C. Ormsbee announced the arrangement for the purchase of seats within Coursera. We are now participating in Coursera's Career Academy for industry standard certifications. OSU is allowed 30,000 seats for Career Academy's 360 certificate programs. Our students have access to any of the Career Academy certifications, either approaching these certifications on their own, or participating in these certifications as part of their coursework required by their instructors. The general Coursera catalog has 11,000 programs, and access to a seat is required through ITLE. These courses range from 1-hour to 8-week courses. There will be a minimal charge for the 8-week courses. Coursera is presenting their program here on campus October 18 at 12pm. Invitations will be distributed soon. Social media will be used to notify students of this program. The annual license runs from October 1 to September 30.

4. Curriculum

1) Information Items Only:

Course Deactivations:

MERO 5013 – Research Design & Methodology

MERO 5023 – Project Management

MERO 5033 – Principals of Industrial and Process Safety

MET 1103 – Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Technology

MET 3353 – Plastics

MET 3413 – Fundamentals of Pneumatic Fluid Power

MET 3423 – Intermediate Hydraulic Fluid Power

MET 3573 – Advanced Production Processes

MET 4303 – Computer Integrated Manufacturing

MET 4313 – Electrohydraulics and Motion Control

MET 4413 – Ground Source Heat Pump Systems

MET 4453 – Applied Thermodynamics

MET 4463 – Thermal Fluids Laboratory

MET 4503 – Petroleum Operations

NREM 5583 – Wetland Wildlife Ecology

2) Course Action Summaries:

3) Program Modifications:

College of Arts and Sciences

Critical Thinking, Minor – tabled for further discussion

New minor request

Rationale: OSU's new strategic plan focuses on four competencies (professional preparedness, engaged citizenship, ethical leadership, and personal responsibility), and critical thinking is central to all of these. The proposed minor will prepare students to make good decisions personally, professionally, and academically.

French, BA (103)

Course requirement change

- Remove FREN 2723
- No longer require FREN 3203
- Increase “12 or more hours of French” to “18 or more hours of French”
- Total credits will not change
- Reason for requested action: To help students progress through the degree.

French: Business Essentials, BA (103)

Course requirement change

- Remove FREN 2723
- No longer require FREN 3203
- Increase “9 or more hours of French” to “15 or more hours of French”
- Total credits will not change
- Reason for requested action: To help students progress through the degree.

French: Pre-Law, BA (103)

Course requirement change

- Remove FREN 2723 and FREN 3203
- Increase “12 or more hours of French” to “18 or more hours of French”
- Total credits will not change
- Reason for requested action: To help students progress through the degree.

Korean, Minor

New minor request

Rationale: To provide students with the opportunity to continue learning Korean and earn a credential.

Motion was made by A. Sanogo and seconded by M. Mason to accept the above-mentioned College of Arts and Sciences program modifications, with the exception of the tabled Critical Thinking minor, and IC members approved.

Spears School of Business

Economics, Minor – tabled for further discussion regarding the matter of accepting AGEC 1113

Change to existing minor

Summary of changes: Decrease hours from 27 to 15 credit hours

Reason for requested action: To make the minor more accessible to students.

5. Other

- Reminder ... to be added to the Center for Humanities mailing list, please contact either C. Francisco or humanities@okstate.edu.
- Record six-week grade submission – 97.3% campuswide; big shout out to OSU Agriculture with 100% grade submission. A cause for concern was brought up that there have been occasions where students received an F in a course and no academic alerts had been submitted on their behalf. The best predictor of retention in the first semester is the difference between the high school GPA and the first term midterm GPA. Also, there are department heads who are included on the list of instructors with missing grades. This is cause for concern within that unit as a whole because of the indirect message being communicated by the department head.
- Reminder ... returned deviations are submitted to the entire workflow so that everyone is aware of what concerns are presented as the reason for the refused deviation. This purpose is so that all IC members are kept aware of the issues with deviations.
- IC members wished A. Sanogo a happy birthday!

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10am

Minutes were recorded by K. Campbell