

Minutes
Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
Thursday, May 4th, 2023

Members in Attendance: L. Dorsey, G. Barker, E. Gockel-Blessing, M. Cope, T. DeShon, P. Dotson, J. Helton, L. McLaughlin, S. McGahan, G. Meyers, N. Mispagel, Nichols, B. Perlman, D. Pike, Fr. Rozier, J. Rust, S. Sell, S. Steadman, L. Sweetman, M. Toups, S. Tyuse, K. Waldron

Absent/Excused: E. Crowell and J. Haugen

Special Guest: Saneta Thurmon, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences

Call to Order: Dr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Motion to approve April 2023 minutes with some grammatical changes was put forward by Dr. Beth Blessing and seconded by Dr. Scott Sell. Minutes were approved.

Academic Programs:

1. Four CAS Micro-credentials – Senior Associate Dean Gary Barker

- Media Production (Communication)
- Acting (Theatre/FPA)
- Musical Theatre (Theatre/Dance/Music/FPA)
- Theatre Design (Theatre/FPA)

There being no additional framework to add to the proposals submitted, it was opened to the floor for discussion. The committee discussed the need to inform departments going forward of any adjacency within the micro-credential courses and other programs. With no further discussion, the proposals are being moved to the May 11th subcommittee for a vote.

2. Three Biomedical Engineering – Scott Sell, PhD

- Foundations of Biomechanics
- Foundations of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine
- Quantitative Physiology Concepts for Engineering

The committee requested that Dr. Sell meet with his colleagues and realign the passing grade from C- to C for undergraduate courses and a “B” for graduate courses as stated in the micro-credential policy. Second, to clarify progression standards if the student does not achieve the desired grade. Will they be allowed to repeat the course? Third, to narrow some of the learning outcomes to be more specific and concise.

One Informational Program Change: Minor program change for the BS in Aeronautics degree. Moving Flight Sciences requirements into an elective and adding a previous course that had been removed AVI 1010 back into the curriculum. The committee requested Dr. Sell make the written distinction between CORE courses and electives.

The committee suggested that language be inserted into the catalog to clarify the micro-credentials with a link to the micro-credential's pages.

3. The Chaifetz School of Business – Associate Dean Debbie Pike

- Proposal for program changes to the BS in Accounting program
- Create two concentrations from existing courses

The Accounting department is proposing to adapt their curriculum to better reflect the marketplace demand. There is a strong interest in a consulting career path from the students and accounting firms. The leader of the Advisory Board and Young Advisory Board initiated the changes with a focus on six specific courses. The purpose is to increase diversification of the profession and allow students a couple of career paths. There will be no changes to the current degree requirements of a CPA. The proposal is being moved to May 11th subcommittee for a vote.

4. Accelerated scholars track in Speech Language and Hearing Sciences – Saneta Thurmon, PhD

The proposal is to change the current Scholars program to an accelerated program. This is more in alignment with other programs in DCHS as well as midwest competitor institutions (e.g., Marquette University) and will increase retention in the undergrad program retaining the fourth-year students. Area programs at Maryville, Fontbonne and SIUE do not currently have an accelerated scholar track. This is groundbreaking in the immediate area.

The master's program will be moving from six years to five years. The curriculum aligns with the core with time to complete a minor and study abroad in sophomore year. This is a direct admit program; however, does not preclude transfers.

Point of confusion addressed by committee -- 20+ GR credits are counting down to the UG senior year when the allowable amount is 15. Dr. Dorsey identified that there is some differentiation between other professional program models vs newer ABM programs. The PT, OT and AT model allow seniors more graduate credit in the fourth UG year, intentionally scaffolded in to UG degree. Need to gain clarity of federal laws regarding how many GR courses are allowed in the senior year without affecting financial aid.

The specific criteria of probation standards need to be addressed in a statement within the proposal. Also, revisit how the core is being represented in the road maps of this proposal.

Dr. Thurman will make the updates/corrections noted and bring them back to the UAAC Subcommittee on May 11th for voting purposes.

Micro-credential Proposal:

Policy Review

1. New Draft of Mirco-Credential Definition – The UAAC Bylaws have been revised to include this definition. Under academic micro-credential we added the one sentence. No more discussion points – Debbie Pike motion to approve, Gary Barker second. Revised policy Approved.
2. Revised Catalog of Record policy – Refined Core statement. Bolded additional sentence for clarity. Debbie Pike motioned to move policy forward and Jennifer Rust seconded the motion. Policy was approved.

Challenge Exams – No Update.

UAAC Bylaws

Micro-credentials have been added. Dr. Dorsey expressed the need to discuss term limits and updating rosters. Bylaws indicate a maximum of six years unless you are a dean’s representative or one of the standing dean appointments on UAAC. Many spaces are filled with undergraduate Associate Deans -- are we missing the faculty perspective? Dr. Dorsey plans to recommend this topic as an agenda item for a future Provost’s Dean’s meeting in the Fall to discuss the current frame of permanent and supplemental positions on UAAC and to further clarify the six-year rule.

A motion to adapt UAAC bylaws with micro-credential change with a commitment to address the six-year appointment was put forward by Gary Barker and Seconded by Scot Sell. Debbie Pike abstained for reasons pertaining to the two-term appointment. Revised bylaws are approved. Frame for discussion in the Fall – membership and terms limits.

Waitlist – No Update

Academic Integrity Policy Revisions

Dr. Dorsey will propose to the Provost in the Fall that the small working group for academic integrity continues its goal of revising the policy to include the AI component and use in the classroom.

Meeting Adjournment:

Dr. Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.

Next UAAC Meeting: September 7th, 2023