

Academic Council Meeting  
November 27, 2006

*Members Present:* Donna M. Jurick, SND (presiding), Charlie Bicak, Fr. Lou Brusatti, Ramsey Fowler, Lance Hayes, Sarah Henseler, Marianne Hopper, Karen Jenlink, Marsha Kelliher, Judy Leavell, Tom Leonhardt, Tracy Manier, Molly Minus, Mark Poulos, Joseph Persac (SGA Representative), Celeste Rodriguez (SGA Representative), Anna Stewart, Brenda Vallance

*Members Absent:* Chase Carter (SGA Representative), Tom Evans, Fidelma O'Leary, Lynn Rudloff, Jon Sanders (SGA Representative), Sarah Sitton

*Others Present:* Mary Brantl, Barbara Henderson, Mary Howerton, Stan Irvin, Michele Kay, Robert J. Lueger, Greg MacConnell, Mary Rist, Marilyn Schultz, Frank Smith, Vicki Totten, Amanda Holland (recording)

1. Minutes of the October 16, 2006 Meeting

**The minutes passed unanimously with no corrections noted.**

2. Changes to Philosophy Major

Fr. Lou Brusatti proposed several changes to the current Philosophy major. Currently, required courses for the major include two courses (six hours) in the History of Philosophy—PHIL 2316 and 2317—and two courses (six hours) in the History of Theology—RELS 3333 and 3334. Changes would include adding a third required course in the History of Philosophy, PHIL 2318, which is an existing course listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin. The requirement for the History of Theology would be reduced to one course (three hours) giving students the option to choose either RELS 3333 or 3334. These changes will allow students to benefit from a more varied perspective in the discipline while retaining the 42 hours currently required to complete the major.

It was noted in discussion that by reducing the History of Theology requirement to three hours (removing an upper-division course) and replacing those hours with PHIL 2318 (adding a lower-division course) as a requirement under the History of Philosophy, the total number of upper-division coursework is reduced by three hours. It is required that at least half of any major consist of upper-division coursework. This needs to be researched before these changes can be implemented. Should the major fall short of this requirement, it may be necessary to number PHIL 2318 as an upper-division course and adjust the course content as appropriate.

**This proposal was postponed to a future meeting of the Academic Council.**

3. Changes to Forensic Science Minor

Karen Jenlink proposed the following changes to the Forensic Science minor. First, BIOL 2404: Human Anatomy and Physiology will be substituted for BIOL 1308/1108: Organisms and Populations. Additionally, FRSC 4650: Senior Internship will be added to the Undergraduate Bulletin. This will allow students the option of completing a six hour rather than three hour internship if they so desire. Finally, FRSC 4348: Senior Research Seminar will be added to the

Undergraduate Bulletin. Currently, it is required that students complete an internship in the Forensic Science minor. By adding FRSC 4348, students who do not wish to or cannot complete an internship will have an alternative option. The degree plan will be amended to read “FRSC 4350/4650: Senior Internship or FRSC 4348: Senior Research Seminar”.

**Motion: To approve the substitution of BIOL 2404 for BIOL 1308/1108 and the addition of FRSC 4650: Senior Internship and FRSC 4348: Senior Research Seminar to the Undergraduate Bulletin. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Changes to Kinesiology with EC-12 Physical Education Teacher Certification Major  
Karen Jenlink and Frank Smith proposed changes to the Kinesiology major based on changes made to the EC-12 Physical Education Teacher Certification requirements by the State of Texas. KINE 1320: Safety & First Aid and KINE 3338: Motor Learning & Development, both of which are currently offered courses, will move from elective options to required courses in the major. To keep the total number of hours required for the major consistent, students will choose to complete either KINE 3333: Management of Kinesiology & Sports Programs or KINE 4340: Coaching Theory & Practice as part of their major requirements. Under the same reasoning, students will choose to complete either PSYC 3307: Adolescent Psychology or PSYC 3308: Child Development as part of the requirements for the minor in Teacher Education. The recommended changes will align the curriculum to the requirements of the EC-12 Physical Education Teacher Certification and will, in theory, improve student performance on the certification exam.

**Motion: To approve all changes to the Kinesiology with EC-12 Physical Education Teacher Certification major. The motion passed unanimously.**

5. Changes to Human Services Major  
Vicki Totten proposed the following changes to the Human Services major. First, three courses will be added as core requirements of the major—A-HUSV XXXX: Using Policy to Transform Human Services Practice, A-HUSV XXXX: Community Organizing and Development, and A-HUSV XXXX: Program Evaluation. Course numbers are to be determined and will be coordinated with the Office of the Registrar. Program Evaluation is the only new course to be added—the remaining two courses have been offered previously as special topics courses.

Additionally, A-PSYC 3330: Race, Class, & Gender and A-SOCW 3330: Social Research, both existing courses, will be moved within the major to specialization electives. The specialization electives will be reduced from 15 to 12 credit hours.

**Motion: To approve all changes to the Human Services major including the addition of Using Policy to Transform Human Services Practice, Community Organizing & Development, and Program Evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. Changes to Entrepreneurship Class Designations  
Marsha Kelliher proposed that the class designations for ENTR 2381 and ENTR 2393 be reclassified ENTR 3381 and ENTR 3393 respectively. These courses were originally designated as lower-division courses to attract freshmen and sophomores to the major; however, this had an

unintended impact on upperclassmen who wanted to take the classes as electives in the School of Management and Business. Because the courses were lower-division this excluded them as business electives under the Business degree plan. In addition, the course description will be updated for ENTR 3381 as appropriate; however, no substantive changes will be made to the course.

**Motion: To approve the reclassification of ENTR 2381 and ENTR 2393 to ENTR 3381 and ENTR 3393 respectively. The motion passed unanimously.**

7. Addition of Art History Minor

Stan Irvin and Mary Brantl proposed the addition of a seven course/21-hour Art minor which would provide essential support and enrichment to students involved in the arts, enhance the study of visual culture in the Humanities, and offer the tools and material that contributes towards general life skills from visual literacy to diversity consciousness. This minor will aid students planning to continue their education by seeking a graduate degree in the arts. Currently, SEU art students are at a disadvantage because they are lacking substantial experience in Art History generally required for admission to a Master of Arts program.

Four of the seven required courses are currently offered and listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin. These include ARTS 1303: Art History I, 2304: Art History II, 3339: Modern Art, and 3340: Issues in Contemporary Art. The remaining three courses will consist of ARTS 43XX: Advanced Seminar in Art History and two courses above the 1000 level.

New courses to be added to the Undergraduate Bulletin include ARTS 43XX: Advanced Seminar in Art History, ARTS 23XX: Period Studies in Art History, and ARTS 23XX: Topical Studies in Art History. The latter two courses will be elective options in the proposed minor. Course numbers are to be determined and will be coordinated with the Office of the Registrar.

In addition to the newly created courses, options for electives also include PHCO 2324: History of Photography and GDES 3300: History of Graphic Design—both of which are currently offered courses in the School of Humanities.

It was noted in discussion that the minor consists of nine hours of upper-division courses and twelve hours of lower-division courses. In general, half of the minor should consist of upper-division courses; however, as this is a 21-hour minor, this division of courses may be acceptable. It was suggested that one of the two newly proposed courses be numbered as an upper-division course. The reasoning for introducing these courses as lower-division was to allow students not seeking a minor in Art History but interested in the arts access to these courses as elective options as well. However, it was suggested that it may be more beneficial to challenge those students targeted by the minor rather than accommodating students only dabbling in the arts. It was also suggested that Period Studies in Art History and Topical Studies in Art History be combined into a 3000-level topics course which could be repeated for credit as topics change.

Also discussed was the fact that currently there is no hard data to support the need for a minor in Art History. It may be best to add the proposed new courses to the Undergraduate Bulletin and

offer them over the course of a year, after which data could be collected to support the addition of a minor to the Undergraduate Bulletin. In the meantime, students planning to apply to graduate school could complete the necessary courses that would aid them in gaining admission to a Master of Arts program. Graduate schools do not require a minor in Art History for admission, but rather require a minimum of Art History courses be completed.

**This proposal was postponed to a future meeting of the Academic Council.**

8. Addition of Journalism Minor

Michelle Kay and Marilyn Schultz proposed that a Journalism minor be added to the Undergraduate Bulletin. This minor will aid students seeking careers in journalism—most publications would rather hire a student with a distinctive major such as Economics or English Literature and a minor in Journalism rather than the reverse—and will enhance the SEU newspaper *Hilltop Views*. The minor would help to support both the English Writing & Rhetoric and Communication majors; however, any student would be able to pursue a minor in Journalism regardless of major choice.

The minor will consist of a total of 21 hours (18 hours required and three hours of elective courses) and will include a track in either print or broadcast journalism. Courses required by both tracks include JOUR 23XX: Introduction to Journalism, JOUR 33XX: News Writing, ENGW 2326: Revising and Editing, and COMM 3330: Media Standards and Practices. Requirements for the print track include JOUR 33XX: Journalistic Editing and either JOUR 33XX: Advanced News Writing or JOUR 43XX: Newspaper Internship. The print track also requires one three-hour elective which can be chosen from the following courses—JOUR 33XX: Editorial, Review and Column Writing, ENGW 4342: Magazine Writing, ENGW 3306: Critiquing the Arts, JOUR XXXX: Newspaper Design.

Students in the Broadcast track would be required to complete JOUR 23XX: Broadcast Journalism and JOUR 33XX: Advanced Broadcast Journalism in addition to the core requirements. In addition, two three-hour electives are required and can be chosen from the following courses: JOUR 33XX: Sports Journalism for Broadcast, COMM 4324: Documentary, PHCO 1318: Photography I, COMM 2307: Media Communication, JOUR 4350: Broadcast Journalism Internship.

It was noted in discussion that many of these courses appear to be new courses when, in reality, many of them are existing courses in the English Writing and Communication programs. It may be in the University's best interest to cross-list the existing courses as JOUR and ENGW/COMM courses as applicable. One foreseeable problem with the proposed minor is the fact that many of the courses required for the Journalism minor are requirements for the English Writing & Rhetoric and Communication programs as well. Students can not double count courses for both a major and a minor. It may be wiser and more economical to create a journalism concentration within both the English Writing & Rhetoric and Communication majors. This may also be more reasonable for students majoring in English Writing & Rhetoric which has a total of 42 hours required for the major—adding an 18 hour minor brings the total number of hours to 60, which may be discouraging to prospective students.

In addition, by cross-listing courses and defining which courses are new, it appears that the minor is being pulled from two existing major programs rather than being created as an entirely independent minor. This creates a better argument for the minor as it ensures the courses will be populated regardless of the number of students pursuing the minor as many of the courses are also major requirements in other major programs.

**This proposal was postponed to a future meeting of the Academic Council.**

9. Elimination of Spanish International Business Major

Fr. Lou Bursatti noted that a written proposal needs to be brought to the Academic Council which will eliminate the Spanish International Business major from the School of Humanities. This major was designed and implemented prior to the International Business major which was added to the School of Management and Business. The Spanish International Business major is now obsolete and needs to be dissolved.

**This proposal will be brought to a future meeting of the Academic Council.**

10. Academic Calendar 2007-2008

Sr. Donna Jurick presented the 2007-2008 Academic Calendar. It was noted that graduation will be held May 15<sup>th</sup> in 2008 due to scheduling of the Frank Erwin Center—this date cannot be changed. In addition, Spring 2008 will repeat a similar schedule as Spring 2007 due to Holy Week again falling the week after spring break. Therefore, spring break will be scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> in 2008 and Easter break will be scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>. Day courses will be cancelled for the 24<sup>th</sup>, while evening courses will remain scheduled. This will allow students to spend Easter Sunday with family rather than returning to SEU prior to Easter services.

All deans should review the calendar and report any necessary changes to Sr. Donna Jurick.

**The Academic Calendar will be voted upon at a future meeting of the Academic Council.**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Holland