

Academic Council Meeting
October 15, 2007

Members Present: Donna M. Jurick, SND (presiding), Charlie Bicak, Whitney Brewer (SGA Representative), Fr. Lou Brusatti, Bethany Carroll (SGA Representative), Sue Curry for Ramsey Fowler, Mike Harris, Lance Hayes, Sarah Henseler, Marianne Hopper, Karen Jenlink, Marsha Kelliher, Tom Leonhardt, Tracy Manier, Molly Minus, Fidelma O'Leary, Pat Perry, Mary Rist, Lynn Rudloff, Frank Smith, Anna Stewart, Rudy Trejo (SGA Representative), Brenda Vallance, Austin Wood (SGA Representative)

Members Absent: Tom Evans

Others Present: Barbara Henderson, Mary Howerton, J. D. Lewis, Robert J. Lueger, Greg MacConnell, Amanda Holland (recording)

1. CHEM 2000: Chemistry Seminar

Charlie Bicak proposed that CHEM 2000: Chemistry Seminar be added to the Undergraduate Bulletin as a required courses for all Chemistry majors beginning Fall 2008. The course will provide information about the structure of the chemistry curriculum, career and graduate study options, and current research in chemistry by SEU faculty and chemists at other institutions. The course will also serve to familiarize students with departmental faculty and programs. The course will be a zero-credit letter-graded course and a passing grade will be required for graduation. Grades will be based primarily on attendance—including attendance at scheduled class meetings and presentations given by invited speakers.

Great concern arose regarding the functionality and implications of assigning a letter grade to a zero-hour course. It was noted in discussion that although the letter grade will have no bearing on GPA as the course is a zero-hour course, it is important that it be a letter-graded course as it is a graduation requirement and will be reflected on the students' transcripts. Appropriate personnel will need to ensure that there are no complications in the CARS system in assigning a letter grade to a zero-credit course as this has never been done before. It was also noted that any activities involved with this course can not be reflected on the co-curricular transcript as they are all academic-based activities tied to a course rather than service activities completed outside of a course. Faculty involved will not get load credit for facilitating the activities for this course.

Motion: To approve the addition of CHEM 2000: Chemistry Seminar to the Undergraduate Bulletin for Fall 2008 as a graduation requirement for all Chemistry majors. The motion passed by majority vote, with three abstentions.

2. CHEM 1360: Advanced General Chemistry

Charlie Bicak proposed that CHEM 1360: Advanced General Chemistry be added to the Undergraduate Bulletin beginning Fall 2008. The course is intended for entering students who have exceptionally strong high school preparation in chemistry (i.e. students who have completed AP Chemistry, or Chemistry II, and Calculus) and are seeking challenging academic experiences in college. CHEM 1360 would be substituted for CHEM 1340: General Chemistry in any degree plan requiring CHEM 1340.

It was noted in discussion that students opting to take CHEM 1360 rather than CHEM 1340 will still take the same lab course. It is possible that a parallel advanced lab may be added in the future, but at present this is not needed. It is anticipated that approximately 12-15 students will register for this course in the first year it is offered. If an adequate population can not be generated for this course over the next two years, it will be discontinued.

Motion: To approve the addition of CHEM 1360: Advanced General Chemistry to the Undergraduate Bulletin beginning Fall 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Minutes of the February 26, 2007 and May 16, 2007 Academic Probation & Dismissal Meetings

The minutes of the February 26, 2007 meeting passed unanimously with no corrections noted. The May 16, 2007 Academic Probation & Dismissal Proceedings were unanimously acknowledged.

4. BSS Course Number/Credit Hour Changes

Brenda Vallance proposed that PSYC 3316: Theories of Personality and FRSC 2319: Intro to Forensic Science be renumbered PSYC 2316 and FRSC 1319, respectively. These changes will better reflect the level at which the courses are taught. In addition, Theories of Personality is regularly transferred in from the Junior College level and should be appropriately numbered to coincide with this equivalency, while Intro to Forensic Science is aimed at entering freshmen and should again be appropriately numbered.

It was also proposed that HIST 4347: Topics in Latin American History be renumbered and renamed HIST 3352: Latin America. This course is taught every spring semester and should have its own course number rather than be continued as a topics course.

Course number changes to HIST 3337: Mexico and PSYC 3305: Intro to Forensic Psychology were deferred to a future Academic Council meeting to ensure that any changes made to these courses do not negatively impact other majors, such as Education majors.

Motion: To approve course number changes from PSYC 3316 and FRSC 2319 to PSYC 2316 and FRSC 1319, respectively, and to approve the course number and name change from HIST 4347: Topics in Latin American History to HIST 3352: Latin America. The motion passed unanimously.

5. BSS Topics Courses

Brenda Vallance proposed that four new topics courses be added to the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences curriculum—POLS 4149, POLS 4249, GLST 2199, and GLST 2299. By adding a one and two hour topics course option to both Political Science and Global Studies, students will have the opportunity to earn credit for a wider range of academic opportunities such as the Model Organization of American States and for service experience students gained through the living learning community.

Motion: To approve the addition of POLS 4149, POLS 4249, GLST 2199, and GLST 2299 as Topics courses in the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The motion passed unanimously.

6. BSS New Courses

The proposal to add GLST 1326: Survey of East Asia and GLST 1327: Survey of the Middle East to the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences curriculum was postponed to a future meeting of the Academic Council.

Postponed.

7. PSYC 2306: Human Sexuality

Brenda Vallance proposed that PSYC 2306: Human Sexuality be added to the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences curriculum. This course was previously offered and eliminated from the Sociology curriculum. The course has since been offered as a topics course in Psychology and is now being taught on a regular basis. Therefore, it is appropriate to discontinue the course as a topic and assign it a unique course number.

Motion: To approve the addition of PSYC 2306: Human Sexuality to the Undergraduate Bulletin as part of the curriculum of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The motion passed unanimously.

8. POLS 3321: The Politics and Governments of Asia

The proposal to add POLS 3321: The Politics and Governments of Asia to the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences curriculum was postponed to a future meeting of the Academic Council.

Postponed.

9. LAMS & GLST Minors

Brenda Vallance proposed that two new minors be added to the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences—Latin American Studies and Global Studies. The Latin American Studies and Global Studies majors were both approved within the last few years; however, no minors were submitted for approval at the time. Students have expressed enough interest to warrant minors in both areas be added

It was noted in discussion that ECON 2302 is a required prerequisite for ECON 3321, a required course within the Latin American Studies minor. Therefore, it would be appropriate to add ECON 2302 as a minor requirement for clarity.

Motion: To approve the addition of a Latin American Studies minor and a Global Studies minor within the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Hispanic Relations Minor Deletion

Brenda Vallance proposed that the Hispanic Relations minor be eliminated from the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The major was removed previously; however, the minor was left in place. In the past ten years only two students have shown interest in this minor with neither student completing the requirements for it; therefore, it should be eliminated.

Motion: To approve the elimination of the Hispanic Relations minor from the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Reduction of Hours in LING Coursework in Selected Education Majors

Karen Jenlink proposed that two existing courses, LING 3337: Contrastive Linguistics and LING 3338: Language Acquisition, be dropped from the ESL Supplementary Certification requirements within the School of Education. Currently students seeking ESL certification are required to complete four Linguistics courses. This change will drop that requirement to two courses. There has been significant duplication of information and methodology within the existing course requirements and it is believed that students can be adequately prepared to teach ESL students with six hours of Linguistics academic coursework. In addition, one of the remaining courses, LING 3339, will be redeveloped as Second Language Acquisition and Methodology which will further streamline the ESL curriculum.

Motion: To approve the removal of LING 3337 and LING 3338 from the ESL Supplementary Certification requirements with the School of Education and to redevelop LING 3339 as Second Language Acquisition and Methodology. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Health Care Setting Clinical Affiliation Program Agreement

Charlie Bicak proposed a major in Clinical Laboratory Science be added to the School of Natural Sciences. This major would provide students with specific training in biology and chemistry, including courses in microbiology, immunology, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, and physics. Students electing this major will complete 93 semester hours of coursework in residence at SEU, approximately three years of coursework. The student will apply to the Austin State Hospital School of Clinical Laboratory Science (which is accredited by the National Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science) in the fall of their junior year. Upon acceptance, the student will complete their last 30 semester hours of coursework through professional training over the course of their senior year. Courses to be covered through the professional training at the Austin State Hospital include clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, coagulation, phlebotomy, blood bank/immunology/serology, and urinalysis.

This program was modeled after affiliations Austin State Hospital already has in place with other universities such as The University of Texas at Austin and Texas State University at San Marcos. There is great demand in the job market for Clinical Laboratory Science majors making this an ideal major to add to our degree offerings.

Students will pay tuition to SEU their senior year for the coursework they will be completing through the professional training at Austin State Hospital. There is no cost involved from SEU

to the Austin State Hospital who provides the program free of charge due to a great need for student resources in this industry.

It was noted in discussion that details such as how students pay tuition and how coursework will be transferred or entered onto the student academic transcript will need to be worked out. Transcription will be of utmost importance as SEU is awarding a degree to students completing this major and the additional 30 hours of coursework must be reflected on the student academic record in order to do so. It was also noted that the current proposed degree plan reflects CULF 1320 and CULF 2321 being taken simultaneously in the same semester. This is not feasible as CULF 1320 is now a pre-requisite for CULF 2321; therefore, it was suggested that CULF 1320 and CULF 1318 be swapped on the proposed degree plan to correct this problem.

Motion: To approve the addition of a degree in Clinical Laboratory Science to the School of Natural Sciences which will include a final year of study through the Austin State Hospital. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Academic Calendar 2008-2009

Sr. Donna Jurick presented the proposed 2008-2009 Academic Calendar for review. It was noted that there is an option to have a break between the Summer I and Summer II sessions in Summer 2009 if desired, which would make the last day of classes for Summer 12-Week and Summer II August 13, 2009. It was also noted that the New College and Graduate dates and pieces of the calendar still need to be added for the calendar to be complete. The calendar should be reviewed and any concerns should be addressed to Sr. Donna Jurick for further review at a future Academic Council meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Holland