



**ACADEMIC COORDINATING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2015**

Call to order: ACC Chair Mark Kuntz called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm, welcoming a total of 18 attendees (roster attached).

Minutes: ACC Minutes of June 2, 2015 were approved as written.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *ACC Chair* Mark Kuntz reported that a goal he has for ACC this year is to create an orientation document for new committee members that will help clarify the role of ACC and provide more direction on how to approach curriculum minutes.

ACTION ITEMS:

Appointments and Elections: Kuntz asked commissioners to consider their willingness to serve as the 2015-16 ACC Vice Chair with the possibility of serving as ACC Chair in future. Election of Vice Chair was postponed until the meeting of October 13, 2015.

Kuntz presented nominations to ACC standing committees and announced outstanding vacancies. Members voted unanimously **to approve** a motion (forwarded by Tracy Thorndike and seconded) **to confirm** all proposed appointments to the Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE); Graduate Council; Honors Board; International Programs Advisory Committee (IPAC); International Studies Curriculum Committee (ISCC), and Council on University Programs (CUP). New appointees to the Recruitment, Admission and Support Committee (RASC) were determined by election (see Appendix A).

Commissioners discussed whether faculty who have taken on administrative roles and no longer hold appointments of 0.5 FTEF or greater are eligible to serve on committees in faculty positions. The Faculty Constitution defines voting eligible members of the faculty as those who hold appointments of 0.5 FTEF or greater, thus commissioners determined that to set such a precedent would be undesirable.

REVIEW OF CURRICULUM MINUTES:

#	Committee	Date	Actions	Minutes prepared by
1	Recruitment, Admissions, Support Committee (RASC)	5/1/2015	ACCEPTED	A. Cantlon
2	Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE)	5/21/2015	ACCEPTED	K. Swift
3	College of Humanities and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee (CHSS CC)	5/28/2015	ACCEPTED	M. Geisler

ACTION ITEM:

General Education Task Force: Kuntz presented a draft charge for the General Education Task Force (see Appendix B). Commissioners voted unanimously **to approve** the General Education Task Force charge with minor edits (forwarded by David Rossiter, seconded).

Upon approval of the charge, Kuntz presented a suggested membership list compiled by the Ad Hoc Committee charged with examining the General Education Task Force charge (see Appendix C). ACC members voted to **approve** the General Education Task Force membership list with one abstention (forwarded by Doug Clark, seconded).

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

ACADEMIC COORDINATING COMMISSION – ROSTER 2015-16

VOTING ATTENDEES				NON-VOTING ATTENDEES		
Faculty				Ex Officio, non-voting		
1	Mark Kuntz, <i>ACC Chair</i>	AtLg ~ Theatre and Dance	P	17	David Brunner, <i>Registrar</i>	P
2	Doug Clark	A ~ Geology	P	18	Jamie Lawson, <i>Catalog Coordinator</i>	P
3	Michael Fraas	B ~ CSD	P	19	Lizzy Ramhorst, <i>Shared Gov Ops Mgr</i>	P
4	Holly Folk, <i>ACC-CUE liaison</i>	C ~ Liberal Studies	P	Recorder		
5	Patrick Roulet	D ~ Music	P	20	Kylee Swift, <i>FS Admin Assistant</i>	P
6	<i>Vacant</i>	E ~ CBE	--	Guests		
7	Hilary Schwandt	F ~ Fairhaven	P	21	Marc Geisler, <i>Associate Dean, CHSS</i>	P
8	David Rossiter	G ~ Environmental Studies	P			
9	Tracy Thorndike	H ~ Special Education	P			
10	Elizabeth Stephan	I ~ Wilson Library	--			
11	John Lund	<i>Senator on ACC</i>	P			
12	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Senator on ACC</i>	--			
Voting Ex Officio (total of one vote)						
13	Brent Carbajal, <i>Provost and VP for Academic Affairs</i>		P			
14	Steven VanderStaay, <i>Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education</i>		P			
Students						
15	Zachary Dove, <i>AS VP for Academic Affairs</i>		P	Voting attendees		13
16	Josie Ellison, <i>AS appointee</i>		P	Non-voting attendees		5
Voting members in attendance			13	TOTAL ATTENDEES		18

Appendix A – Appointments and Elections

APPOINTMENTS TO ACC STANDING COMMITTEES¹**To Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE):**

At-Large, teaches GURs: Paul Chen, *Political Science*
Area D, CFPA: Cher Carnell, *Theatre & Dance*
Area G, Huxley: Grace Wang, *Environmental Studies*
Area I, Libraries: Jeff Purdue, *Libraries*

To Graduate Council:

At-Large Graduate Faculty: Roger Anderson, *Biology*
At-Large Graduate Faculty: Wayne Landis, *Environmental Sciences*
At-Large Graduate Faculty: ~~Allison Giffen, *English*~~
CSE Grad Faculty: Gerry Prody, *Chemistry*
CHSS Grad Faculty: Michael Fraas, *Communication Sciences & Disorders*
CFPA Grad Faculty: Bertil Van Boer, *Music*
Huxley Grad Faculty: Ruth Sofield, *Environmental Sciences*
WCE Grad Faculty: Beth Boland, *Health and Community Studies*

To Honors Board:

At-Large: Tina Du Rocher Schudlich, *Psychology*

To International Programs Advisory Committee (IPAC):

At-Large: Gigi Berardi, *Environmental Studies*
At-Large: Lawrence Estrada, *Fairhaven*
At-Large: Liz Mogford, *Sociology*
At-Large: Farrokh Safavi, *Finance & Marketing*

To International Studies Curriculum Committee (ISCC):

At-Large: Shawn Knabb, *Economics*
At-Large: Deb Currier, *Theatre & Dance*
At-Large: Jianna Zhang, *Computer Science*

To Council on University Programs (CUP):

Entrepreneurship: Art Sherwood, *Management*
Sustainability: Grace Wang, *Environmental Studies*
Canadian-American Studies: David Rossiter, *Environmental Studies*

To Recruitment, Admissions and Support Committee (RASC):

At-Large: Gerry Prody, *Chemistry*
At-Large: Chris Sandvig, *Decision Sciences*
At-Large: Mark Neff, *Environmental Studies*
At-Large: Jill Mount, *Health and Community Studies*

ACC STANDING COMMITTEES VACANCIES**To Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE):**

1 Fairhaven faculty representative

To Graduate Council:

1 CBE graduate faculty representative (IT/TR)
 1 At-Lg graduate faculty representative

To International Programs Advisory Committee (IPAC):

1 At-Lg faculty (from any college except CHSS)

¹ Does not included continuing committee members previously appointed.

Appendix B – General Education Task Force Charge

Preamble

The following statement was adopted by ACC and CUE to reflect the values of the Western community and our vision for general education:

Western believes that liberal education enables people to lead fuller and more interesting lives, to perceive and to understand more of the world around and within themselves, and to participate more intelligently, sensitively, and deliberately in shaping that world. This belief reflects a long tradition in American higher education. In this tradition, the bachelor's degree includes specialized study, the major, together with study over a range of human inquiry, expression and accomplishment. Broadly, the liberal education component of a bachelor's degree deals with issues of truth and falsity, with expressions of what is possible for humans to do and be, with things that bear on choices that we make about what in life we consider important. This broader study helps people gain perspective on who they are and what they do in the world.

The CUE concluded in 2012 that (1) the revisions to Western's general education curriculum implemented in fall 2005 "had limited impact on clarifying the connection between the GURs and a liberal arts and sciences education or on creating more coherence across the GURs,"² and (2) it was unclear if the curriculum was either fulfilling the vision for liberal education articulated above or meeting the goals that faculty had previously established for the GUR program.

These conclusions led to the creation of the WSGE Task Force, which the ACC and Faculty Senate approved. The Task Force was charged with exploring and gauging the desire of various Western constituents to engage in structural reform of the GUR program.

From the extensive information-gathering and discussion that followed, a significant plurality of faculty members expressed their reluctance, even unwillingness, to decide whether structural reform was desirable, absent specific proposals to consider. Hence, the Faculty Senate has now recommended creating a new task force charged to develop proposals to improve Western's GUR program.

Task Force Charge

The Task Force will provide for the university community's consideration three options for improving the GUR program. One of the options will involve minimal adjustments to the structure and goals of the current GUR program.

Deadline and meeting schedule

The Task Force shall complete its task by the end of winter quarter 2016. Its meetings, scheduled for Wednesdays from 4-5:30 pm, shall begin as soon as possible.

Task Force Membership

The Task Force will include faculty representing the following colleges and disciplines:

- (2) Natural Sciences and Engineering
- (1) Social Sciences
- (1) Humanities
- (1) Fine and Performing Arts
- (1) Business and Economics
- (1) Environment
- (1) Education
- (1) Libraries
- (1) Fairhaven

² White Paper, p. 1.

The Task Force will include five students.

The Task Force shall include at least one faculty (preferably from the list above) representing:

ACC

CUE

Faculty Senate

The Task Force shall include faculty (preferably from the list above) representing:

(2) NTT faculty who teach GURs

(1) Pedagogical expertise in Higher Education

The Task Force shall include the following (non-voting) Advisory Members:

Brent Carbajal, Provost

Steve VanderStaay, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

John Purdie, Director of Residence Life

One representative from the Registrar's Office

UFWW representative

Associated Considerations

The Task Force should note that, although its study and discussion of improving the GUR program may implicate the associated issues below to consider, its charge **does not include** settling any of these issues:

- Implementation of any of the options to improve the GUR program
- Resources needed to implement any of the options
- Assessment of any of the options
- Timeline of any implementation
- Process by which the university community will choose an option
- How the information will be delivered to the campus community
- Accreditation of any college or of the university as a whole
- Issues involving specific "bottleneck" courses
- Issues involving the university's Writing Proficiency requirement
- Issues involving academic advising

The ACC and Faculty Senate assume ultimate responsibility for the above list of considerations. The Task Force shall focus on identifying options to improve the GUR program that reflect the values of the Western community and make liberal arts and sciences education an integral part of the Western experience.

Attachments

Statements published in WWU documents that communicate the value of liberal arts and sciences education and GURs

Comparisons of GUR programs at peer universities

WSGE Task Force Final Report

Faculty Senate Summary of WSGE Report

GUR Competencies

LEAP Resources and Outcomes

Appendix C – General Education Task Force Membership

GENERAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Voting Members:

CSE: Emily Borda, *Chemistry*

CSE/NTT: Georgianne Connell, *Biology*

CHSS/Faculty Senate: Karen Bradley, *Sociology*

CHSS/CUE: Robert Stoops, *Liberal Studies*

CFPA: Dipu Gupta, *Theatre & Dance*

CBE: Brandon Dupont, *Economics*

Fairhaven: TBD

Huxley: TBD

Woodring/Higher Ed: Angela Harwood, *Secondary Education*

Libraries/ACC: Elizabeth Stephan, *Libraries*

Five (5) students named by the Associated Students

Additional vacancies (dual representation possible and encouraged):

NTT faculty member

Advisory Members (non-voting):

Brent Carbajal, *Provost*

Steve VanderStaay, *Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education*

John Purdie, *Associate Director of Residence Life*

Carolyn Swinburne, *Registrar's Office representative*

TBD, *UFWW Representative*