



**ACADEMIC COORDINATING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2017**

Call to order: *ACC Chair* Seán Murphy called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm, welcoming a total of 19 attendees (roster attached).

Minutes: ACC Minutes of 11 April 2017 were approved as written.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seán Murphy, ACC Chair:

- The ACC Executive Committee has received considerable feedback on the draft credit hour policy that ACC last discussed on April 11th and is in the process of making further revisions and drafting a rationale. Additional comments or constituent feedback can be sent to Sean. ACC will discuss the proposed credit hour policy again on May 9th.

Erick Yanzon, AS VP for Academic Affairs:

- AS Elections are happening now, and online voting closes on Friday, April 28th at 2 pm. Please encourage students to vote.

REVIEW OF CURRICULUM MINUTES

#	Committee	Date	Actions	Minutes prepared by
82	Recruitment Admissions Support Cte (RASC)	3/3/2017	ACCEPTED	A. Cantlon
83	Graduate Council	4/11/2017	ACCEPTED pending clarification of ENVS 565 prerequisite. ¹	M. Yakawich
84	Huxley College Curriculum Committee (HCCC)	4/11/2017	ACCEPTED with significant discussion and request for clarification of College in the High School pilot. ²	R. Kawczynski
85	College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS)	4/13/2017	ACCEPTED	K. Anderson

¹Page 7 (ENVS 565): Commissioners observed the unusual phrasing of the proposed prerequisite, "Huxley master student," noted that "Graduate status" is the more common formulation of such a requirement, and expressed concern that deviation from typical presentation might lead to confusion.

²Page 1 (College in the High School Pilot): Substantial time was devoted to discussion of the College in the High School (CHS) Pilot, which is proposed as Western's first CHS offering. It is proposed that existing courses ENVS 202 and ESCI 101 will be taught in a high school context under the oversight of Western faculty members John Rybczyk and Grace Wang, who will work with high school teachers who are to be vetted by the university. While Western has never previously offered College in the High School, it is common practice at other institutions around the state, and Western does have to accept CHS credit earned through other institutions. The legislature's interest in dual enrollment has been a major driver of such programs, and the legislature has worked to address equity concerns about such programs by ensuring that they are fully funded for low-income students. Cited benefits include opportunities for outreach in diverse communities. Commissioners sought clarification of the duration of the pilot and plans for its review and assessment.

ACTION ITEM

Next Steps for General Education Improvements: On April 3rd, the Faculty Senate passed the following motion in response to ACC's Report on Recommended Improvements to General Education:

"A motion to endorse the four identified priority areas contained within the Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) report on Recommended Improvements to General Education and refer the recommendations back to ACC and its

standing committees with instructions to further develop these recommendations, including consideration of resource implications, time to degree, and programmatic autonomy.”

Commissioners discussed possible next steps in the development process, including the creation of another task force and referring part or all of the report to the Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE) for further development. *ACC Chair* Sean Murphy asked commissioners to determine which of the priority areas should be addressed first, and commissioners agreed that CUE should be asked to work on the writing priority area. A **motion to refer** priority area number 1 (Writing) from ACC’s Report on Recommended Improvements to General Education to CUE for further development (forwarded by Sean Murphy and seconded) **passed** by a unanimous vote. Commissioners acknowledged the necessity of addressing questions about what qualifies as a writing-infused course and encouraged CUE to think about the needs of departments that would like to retain the ability to split up the replacement for the current writing proficiency (WP) requirement into multiple parts.

Commissioners expressed interest in taking action to address and develop recommendations in priority area number 3 (Coherence) by seeking to revise the competencies. *ACC Chair* Sean Murphy stated that ACC Executive Committee would try to schedule discussion of the general education competencies before the end of the academic year.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Recognition: *Registrar* David Brunnemer spoke to commissioners about the recent growth within the state of Applied Baccalaureate degrees, four-year degrees that are being made available at community and technical colleges. As the number of students with BAS degrees grows, various impacts and questions are anticipated, and the Registrar’s Office is interested in determining how these programs degrees will be handled if BAS students seek to transfer to Western. Many of these students lack general education coursework and bring upper-division coursework taught by non-PhD level faculty. Other issues include equivalency for purposes of post-baccalaureate and graduate school admission. To date, the transcripts of prospective transfer students have been evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Questions presented to commissioners by the Registrar’s Office included:

- Is the BAS degree equivalent to a BA or BS?
- Will BAS transfer students be regarded as having satisfied GURs?
- Are upper division courses taken as part of BAS transferable as upper division courses to Western baccalaureate degree programs? If not, what rationale can be provided?
- Who evaluates such students and determines the transferability of different types of credits?

Commissioners discussed the possibility of charging the Graduate Council and Recruitment, Admissions, and Support Committee (RASC) with discussing relevant questions. David Brunnemer stated that he would work with someone in the Admissions Office to write a rough draft of a policy summarizing issues and possible actions steps for review by ACC and its standing committees.

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm

ACADEMIC COORDINATING COMMISSION – ROSTER 2016-17

VOTING ATTENDEES				NON-VOTING ATTENDEES		
Faculty				Advisory		
1	Seán Murphy, <i>ACC Chair</i>	<i>Senator</i> ~ Liberal Studies	P	17	David Brunnemer, <i>Registrar</i>	P
2	Doug Clark	A ~ Geology	--	18	Jamie Lawson, <i>Catalog Coordinator</i>	P
3	Paul Chen	B ~ Political Science	P	19	Lizzy Ramhorst, <i>Shared Gov Ops Mgr</i>	P
4	Joan Hoffman	C ~ Mod & Classic Lang	P	Recorder		
5	Monique Kerman	D ~ Art	P	20	Kylee Swift, <i>FS Admin Assistant</i>	--
6	Phil Thompson, <i>Vice Chair</i>	E ~ Economics	P	Guests		
7	Julie Helling	F ~ Fairhaven	P	21	Marc Geisler, <i>Associate Dean, CHSS</i>	P
8	David Rossiter	G ~ Environmental Studies	--	22	Donna Qualley, <i>CUE Chair</i>	P
9	Tracy Thorndike	H ~ Special Education	P	23	John Rybczyk, <i>Environmental Sciences</i>	P
10	Peter Smith	I ~ Wilson Library	P	24	Grace Wang, <i>Environmental Studies</i>	P
11	Sheila Webb	<i>Senator</i> ~ Journalism	P			
Ex Officio (total of one vote)						
12	Brent Carbajal, <i>Provost and VP for Academic Affairs</i>		--			
13	Steven VanderStaay, <i>Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education</i>		P			
Students						
14	Erick Yanzon, <i>AS VP for Academic Affairs</i>		P			
15	Rachel Heggie, <i>AS appointee</i>		P			
16	Vacant, <i>AS appointee</i>		--			
Voting members in attendance			12		Voting attendees	12
					Non-voting attendees	7
					TOTAL ATTENDEES	19