

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS
of the General College and the College of Arts and Sciences
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
3:30pm – 5:00pm

due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting was held over Zoom

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Attendees: Andrea Bohlman, Claude Clegg, Amy Cooke, Lauren DiGrazia, Nicole Else-Quest, Mara Evans, Beverly Foster, Li-ling Hsiao, Jennifer Larson, Aaron Moody, Ted Mouw, Barbara Osborne, Abigail Panter, Valérie Pruvost, Chloë Russell, Keith Sawyer, Nick Siedentop, James Thompson, Jonathan Weiler, Lyneise Williams

Guests: Dan Gitterman, Anna Krome-Lukens

Staff: Genevieve Cecil

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Updates and Remarks (Senior Associate Dean Abigail Panter) (3:30pm)

Dean Panter opened the meeting by welcoming members, and acknowledging those whose terms are ending in the current academic year. She then provided a short update regarding the fall planning process, noting that the College of Arts & Sciences group in particular is focusing on ways to ensure instructional and operational lessons from the pandemic can be merged with the Chancellor’s request to return to pre-pandemic instruction . The focus of all fall planning groups, whether in the College, professional schools, or at the university level, is integrating the triumphs of remote instruction with the residential experience students expect, especially new first year students and students whose first year at UNC was entirely remote. In addition, for advanced students, how can we support them in terms of career development and providing high-impact experiences in their last year at Carolina. Dean Panter reminded the group that registration for undergraduate students currently in residence will take place on June 1st, and then opened the floor to the group for their thoughts about the work of these planning groups. Larson and Else-Quest, both of whom are serving on the College planning committee, noted that they have encountered a diverse array of perspectives from students and faculty in this capacity, and that there is interest in promoting equitable access to instructional materials using techniques developed during the pandemic. DiGrazia noted that from an operational perspective, her team has received a lot of feedback from campus partners about revising institutional policies and processes that remote operations have shown as unnecessarily prohibitive to students (e.g., prevent service indicators before registration). Moody noted that this is an opportunity to evolve in a positive way, beyond just the needs of the moment.

Dean Panter concurred, and thanked the group for their thoughts. She then provided a brief update on vaccination proceedings, noting that several thousand doses have already been

administered to students. Finally, she closed with a suggestion that the Boards review the course credit rules for Advanced Placement (AP) credit at their first meeting in fall 2021, as a recent report provided by Siedentop indicates there is a large range of variation in the amount of credit awarded across departments. Dean Panter would like the Boards to review this data and ensure that they are comfortable with the current policies or, if not, are able to articulate ways to improve equity across departments.

Dual bachelor's-master's degree program in Public Policy, BA-BS/MPP (3:50pm)

Guests: Dan Gitterman, Anna Krome-Lukens

Professor Gitterman, chair of the Department of Public Policy, and Professor Krome-Lukens, Director of Undergraduate Studies, joined the call to discuss updates to a proposed dual bachelor's-master's degree program in Public Policy. Gitterman reminded the Boards that there was initially a need to seek permission for a stand-alone MPP program (which the Boards recently approved), the vision was always to have a dual degree program that would permit students to complete a master's in public policy at UNC. Gitterman noted that the department consistently sees their best and brightest students go on to private schools to pursue an MPP, and that allowing such students to complete their degree at UNC would not only benefit the institution, but also be cost-effective for the students.

Several members of the Boards had questions and comments on this proposal, almost all of which were favorable. DiGrazia applauded the student-centered approach and the cost-effectiveness of such a program, but inquired about how the program would impact current arrangements between UNC professional schools and Duke University. Gitterman replied that the goal was not to negate those arrangements, but rather to provide qualified students with a competitive alternative. Hsiao inquired about the funding options for students in the proposed dual degree program, particularly for those who enter UNC on an undergraduate scholarship. Gitterman referred members back to the proposal documents, which include an analysis of financial concerns and an explanation of ways in which the College could assist the department in supporting master's students. DiGrazia encouraged Gitterman to reach out to Rachelle Feldman, Interim Vice Provost for Enrollment and Director of the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, to ensure that all avenues for campus collaboration are explored. There was general discussion among members that the interdisciplinary nature and current undergraduate demand would create an interesting and broadly appealing program, and Policy was given credit for anticipating this need and being willing to open the program to students other than their majors.

With no further questions or comments, the Boards voted to approve the proposal.

Course Committee (James Thompson) (4:05pm)

Associate Dean James Thompson from the Office of Undergraduate Curricula then presented the most recent Course Committee report, and provided updates to the General Education requirement Course Substitution Lists.

Dean Thompson praised the Committee for their hard work, and noted that 91 courses had been approved at the most recent meeting. He informed the Boards that overall faculty

seemed to be taking advantage of the opportunity to revise their course content and structure to match the new curriculum, and that overall the results had been positive.

Next, he provided an update on the Course Substitution lists for the Foreign Language (FL), Quantitative Intensive (QI), and Quantitative Reasoning (QR) Gen Eds in the current curriculum. The Substitution Committee intends to now revise and update these lists annually to ensure that students have the most current information available as far as approved courses. He drew the Boards' attention to the fact that the FL substitution list was significantly longer than either the QI or QR lists, and encouraged them to submit any courses within their home departments that might be good candidates for the latter.

Finally, Dean Thompson closed with a brief remark about the proposed American Sign Language program, noting that the pandemic had derailed efforts to get these courses on the books and the program up and running, despite continual indications that such courses would be beneficial to students. Dean Panter expressed her hope that the lessons in flexibility provided by the pandemic would enable the Committee to revive this program, and Dean Thompson concurred.

Program Updates (Nick Siedentop) (4:10pm)

- CIP Code Change for Statistics & Analytics major & minor
- Program Proposals Summary Report, 4-13-2021
- Status Update on Recently Approved Programs
- Review draft template for new undergraduate minor proposals (fall 2021)

Finally, Nick Siedentop, Curriculum Director in the Office of Undergraduate Curricula, presented program updates. There were only a handful of program requests to share, including a request from Statistics and Analytics to change their Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code to one that more closely aligns with their major coursework. Additional program changes include courses being added to both the Latin American Studies (LTAM) major and Statistics and Operations Research (STOR) major course lists. With no questions or concerns expressed by members, all program requests were approved.

Siedentop then provided a brief status update on recently approved programs. This is something the Boards had previously requested, and it was agreed that such a report would be useful to receive on an annual basis going forward. The report looks at enrollment information and degree recipient data for new programs approved by the Boards over the last four to five years. Two standout programs from the most recent report include the Health and Society minor in Sociology and the Neuroscience program. Siedentop encouraged members to share their thoughts as to why certain programs proved so successful, and how this information could be leveraged to benefit future programs that are presented to the Boards.

Finally, Siedentop walked the group through a draft template for undergraduate minor proposals. While there is a template available currently for major proposals, there has not historically been a similar resource for departments interested in developing new minors and it was felt that such a template would be beneficial. After reviewing the content currently included in the draft, Siedentop asked members to share any information they felt might have been forgotten; the response was overwhelmingly positive, and Dean Panter thanked Siedentop and the Undergraduate Curricula team for addressing this need.

Closing Remarks (Senior Associate Dean Abigail Panter) (4:20pm)

With no further questions and no additional agenda items, Dean Panter called the meeting to a close with another round of thanks and well wishes for members. She encouraged the group to take care of themselves as well as their students, and to reach out with any questions or concerns during the break.

The meeting adjourned at 4:29pm

