

General Studies Council
April 7, 2022 @ 3:30 pm
Warner Conference Room or via Zoom
**** Approved via Email ****

Present: Jeong Hoon Choi, Nita Unruh, Rebecca Umland, Jeff Wells, Joan Blauwkamp, Jeremy Dillon, Joel Berrier, Michelle McKelvey, Sri Seshadri, John Hastings, Jessie Bialas, Amy Rundstrom, Greg Brown, Lisa Neal

Guests: Ryan Teten, Suzanne Maughan, Nick Hobbs

Absent: Joel Cardenas, Mark Ellis, Doug Tillman, Noelle Bohaty, Rochelle Reeves, Beth Hinga

- I. Call to order:
 - **Approve Agenda:** McKelvey/Berrier moved to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**
 - Minutes from March 3 (approved via email)
- II. Old Business (Open Items):
 - None
- III. New Business:
 - Review of JAPN 200 and 201 for LOPER 6 (Humanities) and LOPER 10 (Respect for Human Diversity)
Blauwkamp/Wells moved to send JAPN 200 and JAPN 201 to campus for LOPER 6 & 10. **Yes-10/No-0 Motion carried.**
 - First-Year Seminars
 - Changes to structure / course submission?

There was discussion of the revised course submission instructions document that Director Brown provided to incorporate the changes to course structure that the Council made at the March 3 meeting.

Blauwkamp directed attention to the page 2 statement that “All new first year seminar classes and topics must be reviewed by the Ed Policy Committee in the respective college before submission to the GSC.” In the March 3 meeting, the Council decided that this review should not be required, since new topics for ‘special topics’ classes already approved in the catalog do not require the full Academic Affairs review process, and the requirement would discourage LOPR 126 collaborations across colleges, where a single Ed Policy Committee would not have jurisdiction. McKelvey noted that, since the Council has members from all the academic colleges, we can review new topics for academic rigor and appropriateness for first year students without the delay of going

through Educational Policy Committees as well, and our college colleagues should trust us to do that.

Director Brown explained that the requirement was added because the chair of the CAS Educational Policy Committee insisted that the college committee approve any LOPR 126 seminars offered from CAS. Brown followed up with the CBT and COE committees, and the CBT Ed Policy Committee also wanted approval authority.

There was discussion about whether the Council could say no – unclear, Dr. Bicap would have to weigh in. And further discussion on the length of delay this rule would cause – probably one month. Neal said the University Academic Affairs Committee does not review new topics for ‘special topics’ classes and has no intention to start. There is also no means of entering these new topics into the automated course approval system, so a new third party software would be needed. Without Academic Affairs approval also being required, the college(s) Ed Policy Committee approval probably would only add a month. Wells asked whether there could be simultaneous review, and departments proposing new topics would only need to confirm to the Council that they had also submitted to the relevant college committee(s).

Director Brown suggested a uniform rule across all three colleges, but several Council members thought it would work to have proposing departments document that they had followed the applicable college(s) policy with e-mail(s) from the Ed Policy chair(s).

Blauwkamp noted that the new course submission instructions need to go out to campus as soon as possible, so if resolving this issue requires a compromise with the college Ed Policy Committees, we should do that to get the submission instructions approved today. Wells noticed that the approval checklist still has some of the old language about “all three sections,” and Brown said he would make those revisions as soon as possible and e-mail the new draft of the checklist to the Council for review.

The following change was agreed for the LOPER 1 Course Submission document.

- ~~All new first year seminar classes and topics must be reviewed by the Ed Policy Committees in the respective college before submission to the GSC.~~ All new first year seminar topics must obtain approval from the college Ed Policy Committee (if applicable). Contact your college Ed Policy Committee chair for your college’s policy.

Blauwkamp/Dillon moved to approve the LOPER 1 Course Submission Instructions document with the included revision. **Yes-10/No-0 Motion carried.**

- Update from Registrar's office – Registrar Neal had provided a written update on the implementation of the change to the LOPR 126 first year seminar classes for Fall 2022 in the meeting materials. There was no discussion of the information in that document.
- Which dept chair to sign for late registration in LOPR 126?

Neal asked the Council how the Registrar's Office should handle permissions for late adds for LOPR 126 classes. Week 1 is open enrollment on MyBlue. Week 2 requires instructor permission and Week 3 requires both instructor and department chair permission.

Blauwkamp said her preference was for any department chair to sign if the student has documented permission from all instructors. Neal said her preference was for the seminar's designated 'primary instructor' to give permission in Week 2, and both the 'primary instructor' and their respective department chair for Week 3. It would be the primary instructor's responsibility to consult the other instructors. The Council agreed the primary instructor for LOPR 126 and their respective department chair are authorized to give permission for late enrollments.

Seshadri asked about how late adds would affect a seminar scheduled as three 5-week units with each instructor. Neal and others observed that the primary instructor could just say no to those requests if adding the class late was incompatible with the class's design and schedule.

- The Council discussed and agreed that the next General Studies Council meeting will be held the first Thursday in May (May 5, 2022) instead of the last Thursday in April. The previous schedule of meetings was before the introduction of J-term, when the semester ended earlier. The meeting date also will be changed on the General Studies webpage, and the same schedule will be used going forward as long as the first week in May is a regular week of classes (not Finals Week).
- Thoughts after APR? (still waiting for written comments)

Brown stated the APR report is supposed to be to him 30 days after the site visit, so expected next week. The report will be distributed to the Council as well as posted on the website and on the General Studies for Faculty Canvas organization. Discussion of the written report will be an agenda item at the May 5 meeting.

Additional informational items:

- SVCASA Bicak approved the revised governance document in March 2022. The final document is posted on the website and on the General Studies for Faculty Canvas organization.
- Change to prerequisite on ENG 102; removing the ACT score (29) and adding department permission

Neal explained that the ENG 102 prerequisite will now be either ENG 101 or department permission. The prerequisite will be stated in the catalog so students are made aware of the change.

IV. Other:

- V. Adjournment: **McKelvey/Seshadri moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.**

Next meeting: May 5, 2022 @ 3:30 pm-Warner Conference Room, Warner Hall or Zoom.