# Academic Programs Subcommittee Meeting Minutes October 25th, 2022

**Voting members present:** Jennifer Donahue, Melissa Goldsmith, Dana Lema, Shujuan Li, Lisa Rezende, Paul Wagner, Suzie Weisband, Pat Yang

**Non-voting members present:** Thomas Bever, Timian Godfrey, Amy Kimme Hea, Cheri Lacasse, Frederick Lewis, Melanie Madden, B.G. Potter, Jeannine Relly, Liz Sandoval

**Voting members absent:** Kelly Leslie, Holly Nelson

1. Melanie Madden called the meeting to order at 3:33 PM with a quorum of 7 voting members

present.

1. Approval of September 27th, 2022 Minutes

Melissa Goldsmith moved to approve minutes. Paul Wagner seconded. Motion carried with 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

1. New Action Items

**A. New Certificate: Additive Manufacturing (Engineering)**

Presented by B.G. Potter, Associate Department Head of Materials Science and Engineering. Additive Manufacturing, or 3-D Printing, has become a critical element of engineering practice, impacting multiple disciplines and industries. Regional industries have identified increasing need for workforce development in advanced manufacturing methods, including AM. To meet this demand, a certificate that can be taken by degree-seeking, non-degree-seeking, and other nontraditional students is being proposed. This undergraduate level certificate would also be unique to the UA and would provide increased recruitment and visibility. The certificate is derived from existing courses, crosscuts across 5 different departments, and is designed for expansion with new courses and participating academic organizations. The anticipated enrollment is 25-30 students within the first 1-3 years.

**Q:** Requesting clarification on students in the degree program and double dipping.

**A:** For students that are already in a degree program at the college, they have the option to also get the certificate and indicate it as a special area of study to employers.

**Q:** Would people from the industry looking to brush up on their skills be able to take the certificate?

**A:** That was one of the interesting things about this certificate, it is much more accessible as comparable certificates and programs are usually only offered at a graduate level.

**Q:** Is the program fully available online?

**A:** About 30-40% of the course work is available online but the full program is not.

Dana Lema moved to approve. Suzie Weisband seconded. Motion carried with 9 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**B. Modification: BA in Studies of Global Media (SBS)**

Presented by Jeannine Relly, Director of Studies of Global Media Programs. This degree and minor were both launched 2 years prior and is being modified so that courses are self-contained and require no prerequisites. The required core classes will be reduced from six to three. The courses being removed as required will still be available as electives. The goal of these modifications is to broaden the flexibility of the programs by emphasizing core classes less and allowing students to meet qualifications through electives. With the addition of a variety of new courses over the past two years, this change is intended to provide students with more freedom of choice in the courses they take. The GPA requirement will also be reduced to 2.0 to fall in line with the general GPA standards of nonprofessionally oriented programs within SBS. The original GPA requirement was chosen based on the professionally oriented program.

**Q:** When will this change take place?

**A:** As soon as possible within the limits of the system.

**Q:** With the change to core classes and electives, specifically for the minor, how do you think that will affect students and advisors in helping them select courses that will enhance their studies in their major? What was the motivation in removing the more structured path in favor of students choosing their own?

**A:** We just wanted to give students more options in what courses they choose. Most students will likely opt for the lower-level classes as they don’t usually tend to jump in at a 400 level. With the asynchronous nature of the program, students being able to take courses in whatever order they’d like, and the fact that these courses are only offered once a year, doing away with that structure only allows students to make their way more easily through the program.

**Q:** What are the expectations the enrollment numbers for the minor with these changes?

**A:** The belief is that the major and minor will both grow, there has already been a slight increase in enrollment for the minor all by word of mouth.

Committee member expresses concern over course availability but acknowledges that that is a separate issue from what the committee is determining.

Jennifer Donahue moved to approve. Paul Wagner seconded. Motion carried with 9 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**C. Modification: Minor in Studies of Global Media (SBS)**

Presented by Jeannine Relly. Please refer to previous item for details.

Melissa Goldsmith moved to approve. Paul Wagner seconded. Motion carried with 9 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**D. New Minor: Consciousness Studies (SBS)**

Presented by Thomas Bever, Professor in the Linguistics Dept. at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Amy Kimme Hea, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Success at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The field of consciousness studies has evolved to include interests from both humanistic and STEM fields largely due to the advancements in technology and brain imaging methods. The field has become unique with its embrace of both spiritual and scientific ideas. Across the university alone, there are many faculty whose research intersects with several aspects of Consciousness Studies. Previously, a course was created with the help of the honors college to gauge interest in undergraduate. The response to the course has been overwhelmingly positive. From the standpoint of the University’s goals, with the presence of faculty with interest in the field of Consciousness, there would be many opportunities available to undergraduate students. This program will also hope to convey to undergraduates that it’s possible to study a common idea from a variety of spiritual, humanistic, and scientific viewpoints.

**Q:** It was mentioned in the proposal that there will be external speakers, could you elaborate on who these speakers would be?

**A:** There scholars and researchers from around the world that we can call on to give a particular class or speech via zoom. Due to the uniqueness of the Consciousness field, there is a lot of intrinsic interest from these people to be involved in education relating to Consciousness.

**Q:** What is the goal of the students going through the program?

**A:** Some students find excitement in learning about how the brain creates, others may more interested in modern therapeutic techniques. Students will get an example of what interdisciplinary approaches from a wide range of viewpoints converging on to a single topic looks like.

**Q:** There are the two core classes that are required for 6 units. It only says to choose 9 units worth of elective courses, adding up to a total of 15 units and not 18 units. Is this an error?

**A:** This is an error that was not corrected. There were previously going to be 3 core courses for the program before it was reduced to 2. It should be listed 12 units.

**Q:** You mentioned you wanted this program to be available to more than just honors students, it seems that a good amount of the courses requires honors contracts as prerequisites. Maybe you should consider remapping a bit so students can see a way through.

**A:** The hope was that this would attract students that are already in a more demanding major. The courses with these prerequisites are meant to offer these students a chance to apply what they learned in their majors while also being exposed to a variety of other courses.

Regarding double dipping, Committee notes to include a section referring to the limits on students taking these majors set by the different colleges.

There was confusion over letters of support missing from the proposal given to the committee. This was a mistake. Letters of support have been gathered and were included with the proposal when submitted.

Melissa Goldsmith moved to approve. Moe Momayez seconded. Motion carried with 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.

**E. Modification: BS in Nursing (Nursing)**

Presented by Timian Godfrey and Cheri Lacasse. The purpose of this modification is to expand the current transfer credit limit from 64 credit hours to 90 credit hours. This will not affect the current BSN program but will allow for the development of a concurrent or collaborative program with community colleges. This will allow students to take nursing credits at a community college before transferring those credits to the university where they will complete the program. Current Admission and transfer credit requirements will not be changed at this time but further down the road to allow program development.

The committee realized part-way through discussions that a sub-plan proposal will need to be proposed for this request to be considered. There was confusion over the original proposal which would increase the transfer credit limit for the entire degree, not just the sub-plan that is being proposed. Curricular Affairs will work with the proposers to work on getting a sub-plan approved before moving forward with the transfer credit increase.

Motion was tabled.

1. Suzie Weisband adjourned the meeting at 5:07pm

*Respectfully prepared by Frederick Lewis*