

Academic Programs Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2020

Voting members present: Fabian Alfie, Melissa Goldsmith, Kelly Leslie, Todd Lutes, Anthony Sanchez, Suzie Weisband

Non-voting members present: Stephanie Carlson, Liz Sandoval

Voting members absent: David Graizbord, Holly Nelson

I. Chair Fabian Alfie called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

II. Introductions

III. Committee Roles/Responsibilities

IV. New Action Items

A. BA in Human Rights Practice, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, presented by Bill Simmons

The department currently offers an MA and Graduate Certificate in Human Rights Practice, fully online. As the program has been successful, with so far 32 graduates of the MA and 80 students currently enrolled, they are expanding offerings to the undergraduate level. There are currently only eight Human Rights BA programs in the country, none fully online (ASU has a Social Justice & Human Rights program that is not yet online but planned). The curriculum features problem-based learning, with students learning not just from faculty but also experts working in the field. The online courses allow for frequent guest speakers in every course, as well as allowing for students to work on real-world projects with groups internationally.

Discussion:

- *Will some of the courses be co-convened with the graduate-level courses? Yes, we've been focused on making our curriculum as efficient as possible. We'll co-convene four or five courses at least as 400-level classes. The courses that are more action-oriented and have varying topics, Human Rights Crises, will be co-convened as a 400.*
- *[Note: there was a question about a missing letter of support for use of GPSV courses as potential electives. The committee was mistakenly presented an outdated draft of the elective list. The version was corrected before proceeding to the full UGC. Letters of support have been obtained for all potential elective courses on the proposal. The department may seek additional elective options once the major is in progress.]*

Todd Lutes motioned to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Suzie Weisband and unanimously approved.

B. BS in Applied Biotechnology, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, presented by Samantha Orchard and Matt Jenks

The proposed major was put together by a group of Professors of Practice in CALS (including three academic units), bringing a wealth of real-world experience. There will be three emphases for students to specialize their study: Industrial Plant and Microbial Biotechnology, Food and Beverage Fermentation, and a general Applied Biotechnology where students have more flexibility. This major will serve students as an applied science, as a practical and career-focused major, that could also prepare them for advanced studies. The program will serve the university mission through multi-disciplinary innovation, merging biology and technology to solve complex programs.

Discussion:

- *Just to confirm, there is support for the proposed new courses?* Yes, there is. We won't need any new instructors to start, as the new courses have been planned into instructor load.

Kelly Leslie motioned to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Anthony Sanchez and unanimously approved.

- C. BAS in Early Childhood, College of Applied Science and Technology, presented by Laurie Seder and Eric Mapp

This program currently exists as an emphasis in the Applied Sciences BAS major. There is collaboration between CAST and College of Education, as some of the current faculty in the program have moved to CoE. The program has allowed individuals working in Early Childhood to advance their careers from hourly to salaried, benefits-eligible positions that require a Bachelor's degree; graduates have gone on to become lead teachers for Head Start, instructional coaches, and directors of early childhood programs, to name a few. If approved, the program will continue to address and meet demands of the Early Childhood workforce.

Melissa Goldsmith motioned to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Suzie Weisband and unanimously approved.

- D. BA in Fashion Industry Science and Technology, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, presented by Charlette Padilla, Elizabeth Heuisler, and Laura Scaramella

This major is introduced mainly due to student demand. The online-taught Fashion minor has been successfully growing for nearly ten years. Expanding on and differing from the minor, the major will offer a focus on the science and technology necessary to innovate. Students will acquire 21st century skills to prepare them as problem solvers as technology and culture change over time. Students will explore multimedia tools and digital math tools; they will investigate the design, merchandising, manufacturing, presentation, marketing, and consumption of clothing. This will be the first online Fashion major in Arizona (and possibly the country); most existing programs are limited to in-person instruction and studio courses, limiting flexibility and adaptability. As is already evident with the minor, offering the program online will allow for an expanded and diverse community, with both nation-wide and international reach.

Discussion:

- *Tell us more about some of the proposed new courses?* The Digital Warrior course will be different types of data research, the Higg index, Excel for business. It will be the first

class students take in the major, as they'll need to know how to manipulate these tools. As they continue, they'll build on these skills and adapting these tools to whatever class they're in.

Anthony Sanchez motioned to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Kelly Leslie and unanimously approved.

V. Meeting Adjournment