

UCUI Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2022

9:00 - 11:00 am ZOOM

Attendees: Kristin Landis-Piwowar, Kathy Dailey (Scribe), Donna Free, Joshua Haworth, Yan Li, Ambika Bhargava, Brian Sangeorzan (Guest), Cheryl Jusela, Chhabi Govind, Ginnie Uhley, Mario Scibilia, Melanie Chamberlain, Jennifer Cordon Thor, Richard Olawoyin, Sam Rosenthal, Irene Shabazz, Theresa Anisti, Emily Spunaugle, Sara Webb, Beth Dawson (Guest), Cody VanderKaay (Guest)

1. Welcome Nicole Boelk and Jennifer Cordon Thor

- Thank you Nancy Fetzer; welcome Nicole Boelk
- Welcome Jennifer Cordon Thor; not voting until full senate approval in October

2. Meeting Minutes from September 6, 2022

- Note misspelling of Haworth (not Hayworth)

Motion: Ambika Bhargava, Second: Cheryl Jusela

Approved

OLD BUSINESS: INFORMATION

OLD BUSINESS: ACTION

NEW BUSINESS: INFORMATION

NEW BUSINESS: ACTION

3. **Curriculum Definitions for Governance** - Kristin Landis-Piwowar

- Concentrations: second sentence / difficulty understanding “that are included within the credit hours for the major”
 - Refer to sentence prior “group of courses similar to one another yet carry rubrics different to those in the degree program”
 - **Needs editing** - doesn't require specific enough language
- Major with Specialization
 - Courses taken within the major are very specific so the language does not need changing
- Modified Majors will be removed and will be moved to Majors
- What is difference between minor and concentration
 - Minors require a lot of credits
 - If minor is defined as a low number of credits, it will cause a conflict with existing programs
 - Minors increase the breadth of study for a student
 - Marketability
 - **Rework language for concentration**
- Discussion Only at this point
 - These are stand alone items

- When one item is ready to move forward, motions to move forward are needed and welcomed
- Certificate and other definitions are coming in the future
- Provided together to compare and contrast
- Majors and minors are inline with other universities
- **Requested hierarchical listing for reference**
- There is a tracking in place / DegreeWorks does not automatically identify this / discussions from Registrar to optimization programs have happened in the past / academic advisors are key to assist a student
- Concentration vs Specialization - a student cannot create a concentration or specialization; there must already be a program described in the catalog and have an identified code
- **Add “has a title” and “formally approved by x,y,z” to each definition**

4. Combined Mechanical Engineering BSE/MS Proposal to (1) retain top undergraduate students at Oakland University, and (2) bolster the department's research productivity; Department of Mechanical Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science - Sarah Beetham and Brian Sangeorzan

- The UG program is completely unchanged
- Requiring a thesis from students (increase research productivity, meet student need for a program)
- 12 credits can move from master's to bachelors
- COMMENT: Proposal requests that in the UG junior year a student identified the research mentor; needs to be made more clear for the student
- REPLY: Letter of support from the research professor will be required with the thesis
- COMMENT: Cross listed courses; are they the same of just the designated / request this
- REPLY: grad students are given higher expectations
- REPLY: students at the ug pay undergraduate tuition rates
- REPLY: HLC requires that 5000 level courses are given higher expectations than crossed 4000 level students.
- COMMENT: Suggestion to be consistent with numbers of students in the program
- COMMENT: Clarification on thesis / capstone course (BSE pdf document designates “must” / provide consistency
- COMMENT: Catalog inconsistencies in naming (some are 4+1, BA to MA 4+1) - looking for title consistencies
- REPLY: SECS has navigated away from the 4+1 naming as it was confusing / agrees the need for naming convention / also confusing with undergraduate exchange programs
- COMMENT: Using the term “COMBINED” as the conventional name is what will be used
- COMMENT: Catalog courses - review if all of the concentrations are offered every semester and adjust accordingly in the future / create a portion of the Grad

Catalog that indicates when courses are offered / for the purpose of helping students better plan coursework

- COMMENT: Grad Catalog section - 4 concentrations / 5th option (adjust wording)
- COMMENT: Undergraduate catalog should provide indications of cross listed with the grad courses
- COMMENT: Is there a 6 year guideline that needs to be followed for the combined program? Is there a financial aid consideration?
- REPLY: Grad Dean replied that Grad Council is addressing a change to this / changing to what is allowed for all students at the graduate level (adjust wording to leave it open ended) / the clearest language in the catalog is what is requested
- REPLY: The first four years are considered undergraduate; anything beyond that would need to be graduate level / Students have 6 years to use a PELL Grant for undergraduate
- COMMENT: Do undergraduate credits expire?
- REPLY: As a general rule, OU does not put a limit on the date of credits / some programs (SON) have some limitations / "Degree Works does exclude courses by age if major/program mentions the age"
- COMMENT: Are both degrees conferred at the same time?
- COMMENT: Positive feedback and support for the program
- COMMENT: Positive feedback but requested that language be corrected to better assist the students
- COMMENT (from email): Clarification from S Beetham "I wanted to send quick clarification on a misspeak in our meeting earlier. A question was raised about the MS Thesis and the MS Project (ME 6998 and ME 6996, respectively). Students in the combined program are permitted to take ME6996 (the project), however this cannot replace the thesis requirement. In other words, they may take BOTH ME 6998 and ME 6996 but not ONLY ME 6996. I indicated that ME6996 could be a substitute for ME6998, but was mistaken."

Motion: Richard Olawoyin, Second: Donna Free

Approved

5. Modification to the Studio Art, B.A. Program to delete the following specializations: Drawing, Arts/Tech/Sculpture, Painting and Photography; Department of Art and Art History, College of Arts and Sciences - Cody Vanderkaay

- History: 2016 the program was changed to a non-sequential due to enrollment and bottle necking / this now removes the specializations and returns the program to sequential course taking
- 3000 level courses in specific areas were not filling and the research on an interdisciplinary approach will be most beneficial
- COMMENT: With specializations going away, will this affect Art History course electives?
- REPLY: The Art History curriculum is also going through some changes / choose from any 2000 or 3000 level courses

- COMMENT: Discussion of why differentiate between 2000 and 3000 courses and not allow more options
- REPLY: Based on intermittent course discovery and offerings
- COMMENT: There needs to be clarification for “any” Art History course / remove the limitations (this will only create Petitions of Exceptions)
- REPLY: Change the wording to “Choose any level AH Course Option” / you can add an exclusion that will allow it to be clear to the students (special topics) /
- COMMENT: Asterisk indicators for the K-12 courses
- COMMENT: With 62 credits offered, there are not a lot of course options for students
- REPLY: The options given to students now allow them to take classes at the pace and order they want
- COMMENT: Compliments and appreciation to the dept for consideration and recognizing the changes that need to be made for both the students and the university

Motion: Chhabi Govind, Second: Richard Olawoyin

Approved

ADJOURN

Motion: Richard Olawoyin, Second: Chhabi Govind