

College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Assembly
Agenda
January 12, 2024
2:00pm in Kinard 018

- I. Welcome – Dr. Dave Pretty
- II. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2023, meeting ([Appendix A](#))
- III. CAS Committees
 - a. CAS Curriculum Committee – Dr. Valerie Jepsen ([Appendix B](#))
 - i. Curriculum Actions
 - ii. 36 Hour Rule
 - b. AFTP Committee Update – Dr. Margaret Gillikin
- IV. University Advancement – Kevin Hughes and Allison Morton
- V. Innovative Course offerings for Summer-Dr. Greg Oakes
 - a. Compensation
 - b. Program and Course Offerings
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Remarks from the Dean – Dr. Takita F. Sumter
- IX. Announcements
 - a. Research Council Applications Now Open

There are two funding categories for which to apply: Faculty Research and Faculty Research with Student Co-Investigator. Applications are due to the Dean's office by January 29th and will be routed to the Grant Office by the January 31, 2024 deadline.

- b. Professional Development Travel Submission Deadline of 1/15/24 ..EXTENDED TO 2/1/24 (last opportunity to travel before June 30th)
- X. Adjournment

Note: Quorum (35% of full-time faculty) is 49 faculty members for Faculty Assembly.
The minimum attendance to do business (20% of full-time faculty) is 28 faculty members.

Appendix A

College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Assembly

Minutes

Kinard 018, October 6, 2023 2:00 pm

- I. Welcome—Dave Pretty
 - a. Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm
- II. Approval of Minutes from September 1, 2023, meeting (Appendix A)
 - a. Cory Lundquist: Under Presentation by Office of Accessibility, Karry Medlin (Testing and Operations), should instead read **Karen** Medlin.
 - b. Approved with corrections
- III. CAS Committees
 - a. CAS Curriculum Committee—Valerie Jepsen (Appendix B)
 - i. Changes in numbering of Chemistry courses necessitated changes to other programs for which the course is a prerequisite.
 1. Numerous Biology courses made changes to prerequisites
 2. Other Biology courses updated goals, descriptions, and prerequisites
 3. Human Nutrition updated prerequisite for several courses
 - ii. Sociology 201. Name change from Principles of Sociology to Introduction to Sociology.
 - iii. New courses
 - iv. All course changes approved
 - v. New Program: BA in Criminal Justice
 1. Two tracts
 - a. General Criminal Justice
 - b. Cyber and Corporate Crime
 2. New program approved
 - vi. Several course proposals were erroneously approved previously due to transition to CourseDog. These have now been approved by the Curriculum Committee and were brought to the Faculty Assembly for approval.
 1. Tom Polaski: MATH 216 on slide should read MATH 261
 2. Courses approved
 - vii. Courses not needing approval.
 1. No discussion
 - viii. Next Curriculum Committee meeting October 24, 2023 in Kinard 105 11:00 am
 - b. CAS Diversity and Inclusion Committee –Hope Lima and Takita Sumter
 - i. Presentation of IDEA Award (2022-2023)
 1. 5 summaries received
 2. Honorable Mentions:

- a. English: courses highlight works by individuals from underrepresented groups. Podcast.
 - b. Mass Communication: relaunch of Indigenous Film Series
 - c. Political Science: Faculty led DEI workshops. Organized sexuality and gender equality week
 - d. Social Work: Honoring Black Social Workers award.
 - 3. Award presented to Department of Biology
 - a. Highlights of some of the department's efforts: Hosting DEI events; department DEI committee; DEI-oriented invited speaker; Biology Success Committee focused on student retention and graduation rates; graduating student survey with demographic data to measure student feedback on program.
 - b. Daniel Stovall, Chair of the Biology Success Committee, received the award. Department also recognized Jennifer Schafer and Lauren Brasington as chairs of the DEI committee
 - c. Department of Biology received a plaque and a grant to support additional DEI efforts.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. No old business
- V. New Business
 - a. No new business
- VI. Remarks from the Dean—Takita Sumter
 - a. Welcome: Nikole J. Kidd, as new Director of Field Education in Social Work. A Howard alum previously at Johnson C Smith University and a Winthrop adjunct.
 - b. Enrollment
 - i. Enrollment Update for Fall 2023
 - 1. Highlighted several programs that have increased their enrollments in 2023 over 2022: Biology, English, Environmental Programs, Data Science, Political Science, Modern Languages
 - ii. CAS is working to help build enrollment and support retention
 - iii. Completed applications for Fall 2024 show significant increase in CAS over 2022 and 2023
 - 1. Highlighted several programs that have increased enrollments: English, History, Mass Communication, STEM disciplines
 - c. Faculty kudos: highlighted accomplishments by faculty, including new publications, grants awarded and submitted, and student and professional development efforts.
- VII. Announcements
 - a. SURE Poster session Today 10/6/2023, 3:00 – 5:00 pm in Richardson Ballroom
 - b. Encore Distinguished Lectures Series: Friday Nov 10, 2023 from 2:15 – 4:45 pm
 - i. Dr. Guy Reel

- ii. Dr. Janice Chism
- iii. Dr. Donald Rakestraw
- c. CAS faculty advising session 10/12/2023 11:30-12:15, location TBD
- d. Cory Lundquist (Faculty Committee on University Life): Asks faculty to bring any concerns or proposals for FCUL. Also reminds faculty that today (10/6/23) is the final day to complete FCUL wellbeing survey (by 5:00 pm).
- e. Next CAS Faculty Assembly scheduled for 1/12/2024. Agenda items due by 1/5/2024
- f. Greg Oaks: Curriculum committee meets on 1/2/2024. Asks faculty to submit curriculum for spring before the holidays to be considered at the meeting.
- g. Grad faculty committee meets immediately after adjournment.
- h. Takita Sumter: Two weddings in CAS
 - i. Kim Painter (staff member in Chemistry) and Stefan Wunderlich (staff member in Biology)
 - ii. Hope Lima (Human Nutrition)

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Adjourned: 2:38 pm

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Minutes submitted by Lauren E. Kohut

Appendix B

College of Arts and Sciences
Curriculum Committee Minutes
December 5, 2023 @ 11:00 am
Kinard 015

Attendees: Jennifer Disney (chair of the Department of Political Science, Philosophy, Religion & Legal Studies), Sara English, Ryan Harris (student representative), Katharine Hubbard, Jason Hurlbert, Valerie Jepson, Tom Polaski, Dave Pretty, Jenny Schafer

1. Welcome

- Katharine Hubbard has joined the committee

2. Approval of meeting minutes

- Minutes from October 24, 2023 approved

3. New Programs

Department of Political Science, Philosophy, Religion & Legal Studies

- Interdisciplinary department with the majority of students interested in pursuing law school, but the department does not have a pre-law program
- Two new programs; add a pre-law concentration within existing majors
 - **BA in Philosophy and Religion – Pre Law**
 - **BA in Political Science – Pre Law**
- Adding a pre-law concentration within existing majors could help with recruitment
- Pre-law concentrations focus on courses specifically for students wanting to go to law school
- Students in either of the new programs could minor in Legal Studies, which has a broader array of options for courses
- Department will review courses in the Legal Studies minor in the future
- Both programs were approved

4. Modified Courses

Interdisciplinary Studies

- LART 604 Capstone Colloquium modification was approved
- Prerequisites modified to align with previously submitted MLA in Liberal Arts program changes

Social Work

- All course modifications were approved
 - SCWK 430 Social Work Intervention I
 - SCWK 431 Interpersonal Helping Skills in Social Work Practice
 - SCWK 432 Social Work Intervention II
 - SCWK 433 Social Work Intervention III
- Removal of S/U grade option

- Courses are required for BSW majors and students must earn a letter grade

5. New Courses

Biology

- All new courses were approved
 - BIOL 382 Data Management for Biologists
 - BIOL 383 Data Visualization for Biologists
 - BIOL 384 Data Analysis for Biologists
 - BIOL 388 Snakes and Newts: from Genes to Landscapes

English

- WRIT 551 Advanced Creative Non-Fiction Workshop was approved, pending addition of prerequisites
 - Has been offered twice as WRIT 510 Topics in Writing and Rhetoric

Political Science

- PLSC 340 African & Latin American Politics was approved
 - Combines PLSC 335 Latin American Politics and PLSC 338 African Politics into a comparative course
 - Students could not take PLSC 340 in addition to both PLSC 335 and PLSC 338
 - Course should be added as an option for the minor in African American Studies

Social Work

- SCWK 504 Grief and Loss as a Social Process was approved, pending agreement of the Department of Sociology, Criminology & Anthropology
 - Will replace SCWK 550c Grief and Loss as a Social Process, which has been taught as a special topics course
 - Course is cross listed with SOCL 304, so this course needs to be modified to add new cross-listing

6. 36 Hour Rule

- Students in a Bachelor of Arts degree program can take only 36 hours within one designator (plus an additional 6 hours toward a general education or minor course) to count toward the 120 hours to graduate.
- The Dean's Council supports the removal of the 36 hour rule, and the Curriculum Committee was asked to discuss the rule.
- The Curriculum Committee discussed the rule and does not have a recommendation; points of discussion are listed below.
 - Students in a Bachelor of Arts program are expected to earn fewer credit hours in one designator than students in a Bachelor of Science program
 - The 36 hour rule is rarely an issue now for students. There have been a few cases where it is an issue. One example is that a student who starts in SPAN 250 and earns a B in the course will get credit for SPAN 101, 102, and 201, which increases the number of hours in the SPAN designator.
 - Given that the rule is rarely an issue, it is not clear why removing the rule is necessary; it seems that giving exceptions as needed is sufficient

- The dates of the specific cases where an exception was required is not known, so it is unclear whether students needing exceptions has become a more frequent occurrence
- Students could take advantage of the removal of the rule and narrow their education to areas in which they are most interested
- Removal of the rule would allow for greater credit hour production in a designator
- More information about why removal of the rule would be beneficial is necessary

7. Student Petitions

- Two student petitions were approved

8. Next Meeting: February 20, 2024 at 11 am in Kinard 105

