

Members present: Chair Jerry Haky, SC; Mark Harvey, AL; Diana Mitsova, Urban and Regional Planning for Bruce Arneklev, CDSI; Ethlyn Williams, BA; Angela Rhone, ED; Dan Meeroff, EG; Jacqueline Fewkes, HC; Katherine Chadwell, NU; Edward Pratt, Dean, Undergraduate Studies; Brian Hodge, Maria Jennings and Elissa Rudolph, Registrar’s Office.

Guests: Jennifer Bebergal, Division of Undergraduate Studies; Donna Chamely-Wiik, Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (OURI); Marcella Munson and Myriam Ruthenberg, Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature.

Absent: Kristy Padrón, Library.

Chair Jerry Haky was delayed. EG Rep Dan Meeroff called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. A sign-in sheet was passed around to collect proper spellings of attendees’ names.

I. MINUTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS/DISCUSSION

1. MINUTES: The minutes from the December 12, 2016, meeting were approved.

II. BUSINESS FROM THE COLLEGES – New

1. Undergraduate Studies

While waiting for Chair Haky to arrive, the Committee invited Jennifer Bebergal, Division of Undergraduate Studies, to discuss four new courses that continue the area’s retention and student success initiatives.

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| SLS 1413 Form Syllabus | The Learning Community Experience – Part 2 | 0 | New | |
| SLS 1414 Form Syllabus | The Learning Community Student Leader Experience | 0 | New | |
| SLS 1931 Form | Special Topics in Student Success | 0-3 | New | |
| SLS 2931 Form | Special Topics in Student Learning and Development | 0-3 | New | |

Dr. Bebergal mentioned that the first two new courses follow on the existing SLS courses to create leadership and learning communities for FTIC students across semesters. The latter two courses permit the Division to pilot new courses focused on various student initiatives in student learning and development. Retention is one of the reasons Dr. Bebergal’s group continues to concentrate on developing learning communities; the out-of-state student population currently has a 15% attrition rate; therefore, warrant special treatment. All of the new courses have Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading except for SLS 2931, which will be a standard graded course. **The UUPC approved the new courses.**

2. College of Arts and Letters

AL Rep Mark Harvey discussed the one business item from his College. He said that changing the prerequisites by stating two specific courses rather than the vague prerequisite statement that exists ensures that the resultant student population is better prepared for the course content.

He added that all upper-division courses in the major were changed last year to include these two prerequisites, and this course was missed. **The UUPC approved the prerequisite change.**

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| ARH 4371 Form Syllabus | 18th and 19th Century Art | 4 | Change prerequisite | |
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3. College for Design and Social Inquiry

Dr. Diana Mitsova, filling in for Bruce Arneklev, CDSI Rep, presented a new course with a research intensive component.

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| URP 4403 Form Syllabus RI approval | RI: Sustainable Cities | 3 | New | |
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Dr. Mitsova noted that the course had already gained approval for the research part through the Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry. She also said the related course, “Sustainable Cities,” has a research element, but it is not as stringent as the one attached to the new course. A question was asked about whether or not the two courses would be scheduled in the same semester. Dr. Mitsova stated that would probably not be the case to avoid confusion among students and staff. Both courses would be available however so that the instructor could choose to teach a course heavy on research or not. Chair Haky asked why a student would choose a course with more research required. NU Rep Kitty Chadwell asked a similar question – how does this course benefit students? For both questions, Dr. Mitsova stated that the research course could serve as a capstone for the major especially if those students want to complete a project. Having taken the research-heavy course would help for the student’s major and project.

Chair Haky, continuing along this line, asked about the benefit of having an RI course on the student’s transcript. Dr. Chamely-Wiik, OURI, noted that many institutions use research courses as stepping stones, building this tier of opportunities to offer students looking for challenges. Dean Pratt, Undergraduate Studies, added that the transcript research notations are also another way of gathering relevant statistics. This is part of the University’s plan to quantify the amount of undergraduate research taking place. Dr. Chamely-Wiik said that tracking these research intensive courses helps the University apply for and receive future funding. Chair Haky asked about scheduling both courses in the same classroom – how could that be handled? Dr. Chamely-Wiik said that it could be done because the RI students have to sign and commit to a compact or risk having the research intensive component of the course not appear on their transcripts. **The UUPC approved the new course.**

4. College of Science

SC Rep Haky reported on the one course change in Science. Changing the prerequisite to “permission of instructor” permits more students to register easily for the course and ensures students have the proper background to succeed in the course. **The UUPC approved the course change.**

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| GLY 4750C Form Syllabus | Field Methods | 3 | Change prerequisites | |
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5. **Business, Education, Engineering and Computer Science, Honors, Library and Nursing** had no reports.

III. **OLD BUSINESS**

College Foreign Language Requirement for B.S. Degrees

Last month's discussion about this requirement continued at this January meeting. Dr. Myriam Ruthenberg and Dr. Marcella Munson from the Department of Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature attended to propose that FAU keep the foreign language requirement for B.S. programs. Dr. Ruthenberg gave some insightful comments about research into the benefits of attaining a second language, such as a wider range of jobs, making graduate coursework easier and more logical pathways in the brain. Dr. Munson stated similar comments and shared that four SUS institutions—UF, FSU, FIU and FAU—still require the foreign language for B.S. majors. She added that FAU's Ph.D. program linked to Languages and Linguistics helped the University meet the metrics for the Carnegie designation last year. Having a strong languages department helps the entire University; it can offer instruction in many languages, not just the usual French, Spanish, German, etc. Chair Haky asked about Chinese and Dr. Munson said, yes, Chinese would be offered in the fall. NU Rep Chadwell added that in Nursing a foreign language is not required, but there is an increasing demand for it as the marketplace becomes more diverse. Dr. Ruthenberg said that there were online courses to help nurses and other professionals attain a second language.

Dean Pratt said there is confusion about this foreign language requirement because the catalog language is vague so departments are not able to advise students in a consistent manner. Some colleges have removed the requirement altogether for their B.S. degrees, such as Business and Engineering, and some waive it to allow students to graduate. There is also confusion between the foreign language entrance requirement and the foreign language exit requirement. Dr. Munson suggested that FAU look to other state universities to develop a comprehensive statement about the foreign language requirement to make its inclusion (or not) in a degree program very clear. Students need to know early in their program what is required of them.

After this discussion, the Committee agreed that FAU should keep the foreign language requirement for B.S. programs that currently require it. The practice of waiving this requirement should be stopped. The Committee also agreed that the foreign language requirement needs revision. The Registrar's Office will find examples of clear, concise language to tailor to FAU and present new catalog language for the Committee's consideration.

IV. **NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

UUPC meetings for academic year 2016-2017 take place on Mondays from 10 am to noon on the following dates as approved by the Committee last spring:

Dates for AY 16-17 (Mondays):

SPRING: Feb. 27, April 3, May 1 (exam day)

Chair Haky announced that anyone with program changes from December's meeting should go to the UFS meeting that afternoon to discuss them in case questions arise. Then he adjourned the meeting at 11:03 am.