



## **Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee Minutes** **Thursday, September 7, 2023**

**Members in Attendance:** L. Dorsey, E. Gockel-Blessing, L. Birch, M. Cope, E. Crowell P. Dotson, J. Haugen, J. Helton, G. Lopiccolo, D. Manos, L. Mazzuca, L. McLaughlin, S. McGahan, G. Merys, N. Mispagel, J. Nichols, B. Perlman, D. Pike, Fr. Rozier, J. Rust, S. Sell, L. Sweetman, M. Toups, S. Tyuse

**Absent/Excused:** G. Barker, T. Breitbach, S. Steadman, Jean Marie Cox

**Special Guest:** Martha Allen, Hamish Binns, Becky Muich

**Call to Order:** Dr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve May 2023 minutes was put forward by Joseph Nichols and seconded by Sabrina Tyuse. Minutes were approved.

### **New UAAC Members Introductions:**

Rotation of terms for North and South Campus Deans and the additional of new members.

- Dr. Elizabeth Blessing will serve as the Dean Bernard Rousseau's representative for South Campus.
- Debbie Pike will serve as Dean Barnali Gupta's representative for North campus.
- Dr. Tony Breitbach will serve as the faculty representative for Doisy College of Health Sciences.
- Faculty representative for Business School is still outstanding.
- Grace Lopiccolo will serve as the SGA representative.

### **Introduction of new Director**

Rebecca Muich was introduced to the committee as the new Director of the Honors program.

### **Discussion Item**

Martha Allen – newly appointed Director of Academic Integrity presented an overview of academic integrity/development plan for the year as well as the updated 2023 University Academic Integrity Policy with the inclusion of artificial intelligence.

Martha addressed the issue of each school and college having their own academic grievance policy and procedure to follow, which leads to confusion and differences. By centralizing academic integrity policies and procedures we can eliminate the potential for discrimination charges and support and respect faculty agency and the rights of students. All schools and colleges should be using Maxient for reporting and tracking violations.

It is the hope of the Office of Academic Integrity to shop, vet and approve a revised University Academic Integrity Policy this academic year to be effective Fall 2024. In Spring 2024 colleges and schools will need to appoint one undergraduate and one graduate faculty person to serve on the University Academic Integrity Review Board to be convened in Fall 2024. Projected timeline: Fall 2023 present at faculty assemblies, release draft, collect feedback and analyze and incorporate feedback. January 2024 – February 2024 release revised drafts of policy and procedures and collect feedback for voting units. Present to UAAC, GAAC, CADD and Provost mid to late spring 2024. The working group makeup is listed below:

CAS – Gary Barker, Bryan Clair	SPS – Kyle Crews
CHS – Beth Gockel-Blessing, Sarah Frye	SSW – Shannon Cooper-Sadlo
SON – Joanne Thanavaro	CTT: Robert Cole
SOE – Molly Schaller	Writing Across Curriculum – Allen Brizee
SOB – Chris Thomas	INTO SLU – Lisa Fischer
SSE – Jason Fritts	Student Council – JJ Janulis
CPHSJ – Michael Eloit	SGA – Grace Lopiccolo GSA - TBD
LAW – Jon Baris	General Counsel – J.P. Hasman

The School of Medicine and Madrid are exempt from this policy and process. However, Madrid will contact Martha to work collaboratively with the STL abroad students. The first meeting of the working group is September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Committee members agreed that there is a desire to have a universal policy; however, want to ensure that it will be adjustable for smaller units and applicable to all colleges with regard to faculty service effort on the review board.

Drs. Rob Cole and Molly Schaller have been working together to create programs for colleges and schools to implement best practices. This subgroup will focus on procedures, student orientation, and policy approval. General Counsel will also be an important participant in this process.

### **Academic Programs:**

1. Micro-credential (Madrid) – Hamish Binns, PhD
  - Certification in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CiTESOL)  
This certification started in Fall 2019 to fulfill a large demand for students to teach a foreign language and is only offered on the Madrid campus. Sixteen students are graduating with this certification. They would like to make this certification a micro-credential to be added to the student transcript. This request will be presented next week at the UAAC Sub-committee meeting for voting.

## 2. Micro-credential (CAS-History Department)

- American Rights in a Diverse Society

There was discussion of the assessment of this micro-credential and if the learning outcomes are going to be course based. Are we balancing our expectation of micro-credential learning and is there a place where they are aggregating outcomes? This degree of scrutiny has not been enforced on other micro-credentials or minors. It was suggested by Joseph Nichols to add a paragraph stating that the core question "*American Rights in a Diverse Society*" will be represented in every course.

### Old Business:

1. Policy Review -- Announced to the committee by Dr. Dorsey.
  - a. Catalog of Record revision - passed by CADD 6-23-23 - approved language change - *Undergraduate students whose "catalog of record" is prior to academic year 2022-2023 must follow the requirements of their primary college/school core in their "catalog of record" and, thus, may not follow the requirements of the University Undergraduate Core.* Approved by Provost 6-23-23.
  - b. Micro-credential revision - passed by CADD 6-23-23 - approved language change - "Due to the small number of credits required, all coursework must be completed at Saint Louis University and all coursework must be completed after the creation of the micro-credential. *However, students that are enrolled as degree-seeking students at the time the micro-credential is created may count completed coursework toward the new micro-credential.*" Approved by Provost 6-23-23.
  - c. Dual Degree - passed by CADD 5-17-23; Provost approved 5-18-23.
  - d. Interim Revised Academic Integrity Policy – Provost approved 7-19-23.

### UAAC Bylaws

Review of the UAAC Bylaws membership will be scheduled as an agenda item for the next Provost Dean's meeting. Specifically, the six-term limit and how many terms a person can fulfill. Dr. Dorsey would like to review the current membership process and determine if this is best practice and gather feedback from the Deans.

2. Announced by Dr. Dorsey -- Academic Program Approval- on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, CADD and the Provost endorsed the following Micro-Credentials listed below:
  - a. Acting
  - b. Foundations of Biomechanics
  - c. Foundations of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine
  - d. Ignatian Leadership
  - e. Media Production
  - f. Musical Theater
  - g. Quantitative Physiology Concepts for Engineering
  - h. Theater Design

- i. Quantitative Physiology Concepts for Engineering (*Both undergraduate and graduate*).

**Policy Review:**

- Policy on Independent and Directed Study Courses – This was approved by UAAC and GAAC some time ago but was never brought to CADD. Because of this time lapse it was determined it was best that it come back to the table for discussion.
- Latin Honors – There are some discrepancies on the minimum number of credits; 60 credits on STL campus and 48 on Madrid campus. Students often experience an inability to achieve these numbers given an increased number of transfer credits and therefore would need to take more credits than necessary to meet graduation requirements and thus incur greater expense. We will review minimums across campuses.
- Special Topics – many different practices exist on how we embrace “special topics” across campus. We will work to establish consistency in guidance and approach.
- Undergraduate Audit – We have a great differential in cost/credit hour between graduate and undergraduate tuition. Need to establish consistency.
- Challenge Exams – Continuation
- Waitlist – Continuation
- Proposal to Eliminate Undergraduate Overload Charge: things to consider when reviewing this policy.
  - How many students are affected by the policy?
  - Do we have opportunities for students to take a wellness course without additional cost?
  - Possibly zero credit courses where appropriate.
  - Determine an appropriate threshold – going above 18 credits and adding academic programming without moving to overload charge and without lost revenue.
- Re-visit the mid-term grade policy as discussed in the 2022-2023 academic year.
- University Grade Appeal Process: Continuation
- Academic Affairs appeal process: Continuation

**Meeting Adjournment:**

Dr. Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.

Next UAAC Meeting: October 5, 2023