

Approved Minutes Academic Policy Committee  
Wednesday, March 29, 2017  
R 325, 3:30 P.M.

Members of the Committee:

- Faculty Senator: Prof. Tony Pearson, Fine and Performing Arts
- Provost & VPAA: Dr. C. Jeffery Knighton
- Director of Learning Support: Dr. Steve Raynie
- Dean of each school of the College
  - Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences: Dr. Susan Finazzo
  - Dean of the School of Education: Dr. Michael Mahan
  - Dean of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences: Dr. Anne Purvis
- Registrar: Ms. Janet Barras
- Student Government: Sydney Travers
- Faculty From Academic Units
  - Department of Biology and Physical Sciences: Dr. Sarah Rosario
  - Department of Business and Public Service: Dr. Brenda Johnson
  - Department of History and Political Science: Dr. Kris Beck (Chair)
  - Department of Humanities: Dr. Darren Broome (Recorder)
  - Department of Math and Computer Science: Prof. Diane Hayden
  - Programs in Fine and Performing Arts: none
  - School of Education: none
  - School of Nursing and Health Sciences: Dr. Melvin Seale
  - Library: Prof. Brenda Rutherford

Members absent: Dr. Susan Finazzo, Dr. Michael Mahan, Dr. Anne Purvis, Dr. Sarah Rosario, Dr. Melvin Seale

Visitors Terry Betkowski, Laura Shadrick, Dr. Ed Whitelock

1. Dr. Beck called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm
- 2..Dr. Dr. Beck opened discussion of the Suspension of the APC rules to allow non-member to speak during APC meetings. Motion was approved.
3. February 6 meeting minutes were approved.

Old Business

Alter Bachelor of Science in Human Services

- Remove the requirement for POLS 2201.
- Change requirement to HUSV/MGNT 3341: Applied Statistics if MATH 2101 not taken.

Rationale:

1. Since only one section of POLS 2201 is typically offered each semester, the removal of the required status of this course will allow students to graduate on time if they are unable to procure

one of the limited seats each semester. POLS 2201 will, however, remain a recommended course.

2. These courses are the same class, cross-listed and taught by the same professor. Students are encouraged to enroll in the class with the prefix that corresponds with their major but sometimes they don't. DegreeWorks is programed to reflect the degree plan detailed in the Academic Catalog. Listing them together in the BSHS degree plans would ensure that students receive credit in their Degreework.

- Document approved.

### New Business

#### 1. Letter on Name Change for ECE.

Rationale: The BOR has recommended that all Early Childhood programs in the state that prepare teachers for elementary school be renamed as elementary programs. This means that in the near future, Gordon State's Early Childhood/Special Education Program will become Elementary Education/Special Education and all of our program literature will need to be renamed.

- Document approved.

#### 2. Curriculum and Instruction in Education 4800 proposal

Rationale: Currently there are not enough majors in all of the content areas to offer a number of courses that that very limited enrollment. All of the content courses in education work towards the same outcomes of preparing educators to enter today's classrooms ready to teach one day. Candidates will no longer need to wait an additional year to take a course since the EDUC 4800 will be offered every semester or at least once per year.

- Approved with understanding to obtain electronic signatures.

#### 3. Curriculum and Instruction in Reading Education proposal

Rationale: The School of Education needs to adapt to be more inclusive of reading across the curriculum and add all of the content areas as well as the teaching of reading. The course needs to expand the focus to the PK-12 area as literacy has become an important topic in schools today. Students will be exposed to best practices in the study of reading as a discipline and also in the study of reading in the content area.

- Approved with understanding to obtain electronic signatures.

#### 4. Program Proposal for Communication AA

Rationale: Communication is one of GSC's most popular transfer programs; there are currently 63 students who have identified Communication as their area of concentration for an associate's of arts degree. In a Feb. 2015 article, *Forbes Magazine* called communication "today's most important skill" while Six Sigma declares communication "essential for building a team that will make a business a success." An associate's degree program at Gordon State College will contribute to the dual goals of increasing the number of post-secondary graduates serving central

Georgia's needs and of enhancing the quality of work within the region as our graduates help to build networks of information and excellence.

- Document approved.

#### 5.COMM 2100 - Course Proposal

Rationale: To further develop the level of preparation for A.A. Communication students for successful transfer into a B.A. Communication program.

- Document approved.

#### 6.COMM 2200 (2) – Course proposal

Rationale: To further develop level of preparation for A.A. Communication students for successful transfer into a B.A. Communication program.

- Document approved.

#### 7.ENGL 0989 Change

Rationale: The Board of Regents has changed the admissions criteria system-wide, and the COMPASS is no longer offered. Placement testing is not required for students with both a high school GPA and SAT or ACT scores, since the English Placement Index and the Math Placement Index can be calculated without further testing.

- Document approved.

#### 8.ENGL 0999 Change

Rationale: The Board of Regents has changed the admissions criteria system-wide, and the COMPASS is no longer offered. Placement testing is not required for students with both a high school GPA and SAT or ACT scores, since the English Placement Index and the Math Placement Index can be calculated without further testing.

- Documents approved.

#### 9.New Program Proposal for Spanish AA

Rationale: The value of second-language learning cannot be understated in a region such as middle Georgia where the U.S. Census Bureau reports that the Hispanic population has increased 139% since 2000. Meanwhile, the Pew Foundation ranks Atlanta as having the 19th largest Hispanic population among major U.S. cities. Significantly, the Occupational Outlook Handbook of the US Bureau of Labor Statistics lists Interpreters/Translators among the 20 fastest growing occupations for 2014-24 with an estimate need of 29% job candidate growth. Dual language speakers will become more valuable in all professional areas, from business, to health care, to education, as this growth trend continues. Students attaining an associate's degree in Spanish from GSC will be more employable, not simply with that degree, but also should they choose to complete a baccalaureate program in business, human services, or any other area.

- Document approved.

#### 10.New Course Proposal COLQ 2910 Humanities Capstone Colloquium to Gen Ed

Rationale: There are two primary rationale for the course. First, students pursuing an Associate's of Arts Degree in Communication or Foreign Languages may complete all Area A-F course requirements but still find themselves one credit short of the minimum for graduation (having

completed 59 credits instead of 60). While the USG strongly discourages institutions from forcing students to take extra credits beyond the minimum required to graduate, the current situation forces students to take an additional 3-credit course if they do not utilize an upper-level math or third lab science in Areas A or D (which are not recommended program-transfer requirements). Secondly, the COLQ 2910 course will serve as a capstone course for our A.A. degree programs in Communication and Foreign Languages, allowing an appropriate opportunity to assess our students' progress as they near completion of the degree.

- Document approved.
- Must later be approved by Gen Ed Committee.

#### 11.Science Communications BIOL 2100

Rationale: Biology majors need to be better prepared for findings presented in upper-level Biology courses and the opportunities to read and present research published in primary research articles assigned in these baccalaureate biology program courses. There are no 2000-level Biology electives available that enhance student learning and practice of reading the scientific literature as well as provide opportunities to present findings to general/science audiences. This elective course provides the student with this experience by exposing them to reading primary research articles and understanding the science employed, as well as to what the findings signify. It also provides the student with speaking and writing opportunities to increase their skills in these areas.

- Document approved.

12.Discussion turned to Dr. Finazzo's memo requesting the APC to support the continued development and submission of baccalaureate degree programs by the faculty in the School of Arts and Sciences.

It was noted in the memo that Dr. Finazzo encourages APC members to approve future Baccalaureate degrees approved by the Board of Regents.

#### 13.Discussion of Area B changes needs to begin in the fall

Dr Knighton addressed the removal of overlays in Area B.

He urges the college to determine what we want our Area B to be in the very near future.

14.Dr. Knighton wanted the minutes to reflect the fantastic work Dr. Beck has done on this committee during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Meeting adjourned at 4:24 pm.

Academic Policy Committee Recorder: Darren Broome.