

Minutes
Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
April 6, 2016

Members in Attendance: R. Cole, C. Boyd, J. Burwinkel, C. Duncan, L. Dorsey, G. Barker, S. Naeger, M. Higgins, K. Thatcher, L. Fenneberg, D. Barbeau, E. Blessing, J. Haugen, L. Boyer, M. Carlson, L. Sweetman, J. Gilman

Guest in Attendance: Katherine Weathers

Call to Order: Dr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the March 2, 2016 meeting: Motion made by R. Cole to approve the March 2, 2016 meeting minutes and seconded by J. Burwinkel – unanimous approval.

Update on Pre-Health and Pre-Law Program – Katherine Weathers

Points of Interest:

- Pre-health and pre-law were reorganized Fall 2015 – combining the two programs.
- In the Fall 2015, the Program formed a Pre-Law Review Task Force and initiated a review of the legal studies secondary major and minor and the pre-law scholars program to determine how the major, minor and scholars program are preparing our students for their post-baccalaureate study.
- Findings included (full report provided for committee members):
 - A decline in admission in the secondary major of legal studies. Generally 5-10 students enroll in the major. The pre-law scholars program has increased over the years.
 - The ABA, LSAT scores, and admissions data indicated that a legal studies major is not correlated with law school admission. In fact, the ABA doesn't support any one particular area of study as preparation for law school.
 - Finally, the secondary major is not a significantly distinct major. It is dependent on several other academic majors coursework to complete the curricular requirements.
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program would be enhanced to provide students a greater academic experience around legal studies.

- Internships for legal studies students during the reorganization have been provided through the political science department. It was understood that this was an interim situation, however, it is noted in the teach out plan that it will continue long-term. Reminder to discuss and confirm with the chair of the Political Science Department. Note: in the Pre-Law Advisory Council meeting CCJ and International Studies also indicated interest and availability for providing internships for legal studies during the teach out and pre-law scholars. I saw that there was a political science professor on the task team but I am curious, the chair, I don't know if they rotate that around, to having different people supervise that or if it the same person, what are they saying about it.
- How do SLU pre-law scholars perform on the LSAT? They perform above the average. Do most go onto law school? Not sure of that data, it would need additional research.

Motion to accept teach out plan for the Legal Studies secondary major and minor made 1.17.6(s6e1.0
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- Be granted academic amnesty only once? **yes**
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Graduation Requirements

Points of Interest:

- Last meeting the committee agreed to the last thirty of thirty-six credit hours.
- The students will continue to be required to complete the approval for a course outside of SLU. Students must receive approval by their college or school.
- Update to the requirement number four which is to the right in the current policy, we had courses below the 100 level that needs to be below the 1000 level.

Motion made by C. Boyd to endorse the policy and seconded by M. Higgins – unanimous endorsement.

Old Business:

- The Syllabus Taskforce met and synthesized information with regard to the queries around standard syllabi templates and checklist. What resources might be available for SLU, new faculty, current faculty, etc.?
- Internships – continue to gather data. If you haven't provided your program processes steps if you have them, please send that my way.

Announcements:

- Dean Duncan to Lisa Dorsey - I haven't known you for very long but I wanted to say that your professionalism and the humor and the deference with which you have handled this committee and the work that you have done here, I have nothing but great admiration for and I think you are going to be a real loss.
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