



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, President
RE: President's Response to Senate Actions
DATE: April 21, 2023

Following is my response to the actions of the Faculty Senate as represented in the minutes of the meeting on March 17, 2023, which were approved electronically on March 31, 2023. All program approvals are made contingent upon the department's commitment to staff the changes out of existing internal funds. Note that Section 3.6.2 of the Board of Regents Policy Manual states, inter alia: "The termination of educational programs, degrees, or majors shall be submitted to the Chancellor for review and recommendation for action by the Board of Regents." So, all program, degree, and major terminations (as well as additions) need to be approved by the Board. Our requests should include the rationale and the plan for addressing the needs of existing students.

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee (Kim Green, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology
 - a) SOCI - 3002 - Introduction to Social Justice
Request: Add

This is a new course that is being set up for any modality including in person, online, or hybrid. It aligns with current areas of student interest and with the UWG strategic plan in relevance and placemaking.

Item approved with 15 in favor, 1 abstention, and zero opposed.

I accept this motion.

- 2) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts
 - a) FREN - 4350 - Language Internship
Request: Add
 - b) GRMN - 4350 - Language Internship
Request: Add
 - c) SPAN - 4350 - Language Internship
Request: Add

The three Language Internship courses will be voted on as a set because the rationale for all three is the same. There are separate course prefixes for the different languages. The courses allow students to earn credit towards their degree in French, German, or Spanish for supervised work experience in an agency or organization that is relevant to the study of language and culture. The work can be either abroad or in the U.S. Credit is variable from one to three hours (depending on the internship work hours), and the course can be repeated for up to 3 credit hours. The course codifies requirements for using an internship as a credit-bearing experiential learning opportunity and establishes processes for assessing learning outcomes, which in the past has been done on a case-by-case basis.

Items a, b, and c taken as a block vote. Items approved unanimously.

Dr. Drake provided a follow-up reminder for faculty to add program modifications for Wolfwatch (unrelated to Senate activity).

I accept this motion.

- d) Literature Minor
Request: Revise

This request updates the course list for the Literature Minor to reflect a change in course numbering for some upper-level courses in British and American literature. It also adds all current writing options to the list of eligible courses for the minor, updating the list of courses that will count for the program.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

- e) Stand Alone Interdisciplinary Certificate in Musical Theatre
Request: Revise

This certificate covers three facets of musical theatre: acting, singing, and dancing. The revision gives students more options for courses. Choices are added so that Music majors do not have to take courses for non-Music majors, and an additional theater course makes an acting course available in either fall or spring. This change will reduce the number of substitution requests being processed.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

- 3) Department of Natural Sciences
 - a) CHEM 2086 Chemistry Leadership Practicum
Request: Add

This is a one-credit hour course required for and restricted to new chemistry workshop leaders and laboratory teaching assistants. Students will be registered for the class when they are hired as assistants. This course addition is part of the process of revising the secondary education track under B.Sc. in Chemistry which is taking place because the U-Teach program has been terminated. While this practicum does not replace the student teaching in real secondary schools, it is part of a plan that will help interested students prepare for MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching).

Item approved with 43 in favor, 1 abstention and zero opposed.

I accept this motion.

- b) Physics Major with a Pathway to MAT, B.S.
Request: Revise

This proposal is a modification of what was previously Plan D (Physics, Secondary Education), to emphasize Physics Education in B.S. and to continue with Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT). Because the Uteach program has been terminated, this proposal is the B.S. to MAT track for physics education.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

- B) School of Communications, Film, and Media
 - 1) Communication in the Workplace Certificate
Request: Add

This is a 12-hour certificate focusing on workplace communication skills (such as presentations, working in teams, managing conflict, and competently and ethically communicating in a diverse world). This certificate differs from the Communication Studies minor in that the certificate program offers a proscriptive list of courses focusing on skills most employers seek regardless of the career or discipline.

Item approved with 43 in favor, 1 abstention and zero opposed.

I accept this motion.

- 2) Communication Studies Minor
Request: Revise

This proposal creates an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's pathway between the Communications Studies Minor and the M.S. in Digital and Social Media Communication by allowing students to count 3 hours from the minor toward the graduate degree.

Item approved with 42 in favor, 1 abstention, and 1 objection.

I accept this motion.

- 3) Mass Communications Minor
Request: Revise

This proposal creates an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's pathway between the Mass Communications Minor and the M.S. in Digital and Social Media Communication by allowing students to count 6 hours from the minor toward the graduate degree.

Item approved with 43 in favor, zero abstentions, and 1 objection.

I accept this motion.

- C) University College
- 1) Center for Interdisciplinary Studies
 - a) XIDS - 2300 - The Politics of Space and Place in the Nation's Capital
Request: Add

The course supports a week-long study away program to Washington, DC. The primary contributing disciplines are Geography and Political Science which both study cities and urban governance. The course will count in Area E4.

Item approved with 43 in favor, zero abstentions, and 1 objection.

I accept this motion.

Committee III: Academic Policies Committee (Brandy Chambless, Chair)

Action Item (Figure 1):

- A) Department of General Education.
- 1) Proposal to change the Undergraduate Catalog Transfer Credit Evaluation Policy regarding mathematics.

With this revision, students can purchase required mathematics credit if they bring a higher credit than offered from a different university.

Discussion:

- *Q: Why is there a charge?*
 - *A: If a program of study says you have to take pre-calculus, but you took a higher course and not pre-calculus, then need to buy pre- calculus credit to fulfill the requirement. This is an exemption with credit hours, not a waiver without credits. Only BoR can revise Core requirement to avoid this issue.*
- *Q: "Course credit can be purchased" may look problematic.*
 - *A: Dr. Drake: language is in line with other credit that can be purchased. Like a prior learning assessment. Foreign languages can also be counted in this manner for a \$6 assessment for transcript credit.*
- *Q: The dollar amount is a bad mean overall. Perhaps refer to the charge as a processing fee?*
- *Friendly amendment motioned, seconded, and approved with 41 in favor, 2 abstentions, and zero opposed:*
 - *12: will be able to obtain credit*
 - *Table: course credit can be obtained for*
 - *Under table: The Registrar's office will assess students \$6 per credit hour to transcript credit obtained through the process*
 - *Last sentence: obtain credit*
 - *Vote on policy with friendly amendment: Item approved with 41 in favor, 2 abstentions, and zero opposed.*

I accept this motion.

Committee VI: Facilities and Information Technology Committee (Gavin Lee, Chair)

Action Item:

- A) All Faculty Listserv: proposal to send to the General Faculty for a vote.
Request: Vote

This item was passed last April, but vetoed in May by Dr. Kelly. Chair Lee has spoken with the President, will bring idea of the listserv back and it will then go to the general faculty for a vote if approved here. Chair Reber: Item goes to general faculty if it gets 2/3rds vote in Senate, then if 2/3rds vote in the general faculty it proceeds to the Chancellor.

Discussion:

- *Dr. Kelly: if there is a communication problem, let us solve it, but not in a manner that potentially brings a cybersecurity risk that comes to UWG and USG. This is why the President objects to this communication approach. Listservs were previously common inside of institutions, but that is no longer the case across the U.S. Legal implications of this create a number of liabilities. To solve a communication problem, the President is open to discussion, but this specific solution is not correct for UWG.*
- *All faculty emails are available online, so how does a listserv improve communication?*
 - *Dr. Kelly: This practice will probably need to change and will move to students and other university colleagues having access. Migration is occurring. The automated piece of the listserv is the problem. Current policies do not prevent someone from emailing everyone.*
- *Contact information will not be on faculty pages in the future?*
 - *Dr. Preston: Kirk Inman has said that there are ways for people to contact programs, but blank publication of all points of contact is not best practice. Internal ability to contact, but not external. Similar to VPN: you are logged in and can see material.*
 - *Dr. Kelly: Centralizing process, which applies to phones as well.*
- *Dr. Gavin Lee: Could items that might be sent in a listserv be added to the Academic Affairs listserv?*
 - *Dr. Preston: Yes. Listservs can serve as informational or conversational. Informational items can be handled locally or in the university-wide the Monday newsletter serves that purpose.*
- *This seems to be a conversation balancing risks associated with communication vs. benefit of communication. Professional contact information will be removed from public: this may undermine professional persona and limit networking.*
 - *Dr. Preston: External individuals can click a faculty member's name and send a message, but does not show email. Need to balance need, desire, and access. Other institutions are able to do this with protections for you and the institution.*
 - *What if a journal wants to contact a faculty member?*
 - *Dr. Preston: They can press your name and get in touch with you or they will contact the Provost, media, etc. Major journals have the media contacts for UWG.*

Request to bring as a vote to the Faculty Senate motioned, seconded, and approved. Item not approved due to only reaching 57% of the required 66% majority (24 in favor, 4 abstentions, and 14 objections).

I have no comment.