

Faculty of Arts Council

Minutes

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

12:30-1:30 PM

Present: Tim Babcock, Karen Barkhouse, Jane Barter, Jim Clark, Samantha Cook, Angela Failler, Barbara Foucault, Neil Funk-Unrau, Fiona Green, James Hanley, Steven Kohm, Lisa McLean, Jaqueline McLeod Rogers, Allen Mills, Glenn Moulaison, Curt Pankratz, Pauline Ripat, Liliane Rodriguez, Jacqueline Romanow, Jim Silver, Alden Turner.

Regrets: Jane Cahill, Catherine Hunter, Roy Loewen.

Motion to approve the agenda (Steven Kohm/Jacqueline Romanow). Approved.

Motion to approve the minutes of October 19, 2015 (Jane Barter/Jaqueline McLeod Rogers). Approved.

Minor in Comparative Literature

Liliane Rodriguez came to Council to discuss a proposed Minor in Comparative Literature to be offered by Modern Languages and Literatures. The discipline encompasses works studied in translation as well as works in the same language but from different cultures. The minor would be both interdisciplinary and intermedial. Students would study different forms of artistic expression: *e.g.* literature, film, photos.

The degree requirements would include in its 18 credits, 9 from one department and 9 from at least one other department. Currently, Liliane reports that there are a sufficient number of course options to satisfy the requirements. She reports interest in the minor from students. Because courses exist, she feels that there will not be additional administrative tasks.

The proposal has been approved within the Department and is looking to go forward to Academic Planning. A question was raised as to whether a minor can be offered in a department that does not offer a major in the same area. This matter will need to be clarified.

Motion: that Arts Council support the effort by Modern Languages and Literatures to create a minor in Comparative Literature and to take the measure to Academic Planning. (Tim Babcock/Jane Barter). Approved.

Criminal Justice name change

Steven Kohm spoke to Council to propose and explain a name change for his Department, to Criminal Justice and Criminology. In his view, the change provides a clear home for the program and benefits students applying to grad programs. This dual designation emphasizes both theory and practice. He suggests that the discipline has moved away from Criminal Justice. He noted several publications, institutes and departments that use Criminal Justice and Criminology.

He acknowledges that the program is interdisciplinary. Their courses involve law, psychology and sociology. He says that the change is not restrictive for other departments and cites a History of Criminal Justice in America course which is offered by History as an example of other departments' involvement in the discipline. He wants feedback from Arts Council before taking the name change to Academic Planning.

Curt Pankratz from Sociology came to Council to present his Department's view on name change: members are unanimously against it. He says that criminology has long been a major component of the Sociology Department's offerings. He sees no evidence of student confusion because two departments teaching criminology. He notes that more confusion is likely as a result of the name change. Sociology notes that the visibility of one of their areas of study seems to be diminished by the name change. He agrees that the title Criminology attracts students. Sociology would be at a disadvantage if this were to go forward.

He would suggest that the University consider an independent institute of this name. This entity could draw on all existing university resources. Sociology and Criminal Justice, in this view, would be equal partners.

Council could see issues here. On the one hand, all of Humanities and Social Sciences can be said to be offshoots of a single entity called Classics. Pauline suggests that Classics has, in fact, benefited from these specializations. Others can see that a department's area of expertise is being re-focused and directed elsewhere. Others want to see all existing university resources deployed equally. Continual specialization, in this view, can lead to overlap and inefficiencies.

Steven indicated that he is willing to discuss the issue further with Sociology.

Motion to adjourn (Jane Barter/Tim Babcock). Approved.