

Faculty Senate Minutes
For: 3/21/2023

Members Present: Beverly Alwell, Carol Corbat (Vice President), Rusty Gaspard, Julie Gill (President), Purujit Gurjar (on Zoom), Jennifer Innerarity (Parliamentarian), GuoYi Ke, Missy LaBorde, Matthew Stokes (Secretary), Richard Elder (alternate for Cynthia Thomas), Debbie Wood

Members Absent: Hal Langford, Kerry Ordes, Sona Kumar

Guests Present: Shelly Gill

Call to Order: A quorum was established at 3:05 pm and the meeting was called to order.

Minutes: 2.7.23

It was stated that senators should provide feedback to M. Stokes by tomorrow afternoon and then an electronic vote would be called Thursday with the results ready by Friday.

M. LaBorde made a motion that senators review the 2.7.23 minutes and approve them via email with an electronic vote

D. Wood seconded the motion

Vote: 9-0-1

President's Report:

Though an official report was not given, J. Gill did briefly announce that she is meeting with Dr. Bain on Friday regarding P grades. Also, J. Gill stated that she would schedule an appointment with Dr. Coreil early next week regarding faculty concerns.

Brief Guest Updates:

Shelly Gill was introduced and started by thanking everyone for having her at the meeting. S. Gill explained they had been provided new information on admission requirements by the BOR, all based on Dr. Hunter Reed's 60 x 30 plan. The plan is to create pathways so that by 2030, 60% of Louisiana's working-age adults will have a degree or high-value credential.

S. Gill noted that LSUA has created a new pathway for students with a HiSET or GED diploma; a new pathway for students with Jump Start; a pathway for students with DE credit; an additional pathway for students with applied Associates of Science degree; and a pathway for students with no test scores for whatever reason.

S. Gill went on to elaborate on new changes for LSUA. She stated that students can now be placed in English and Math courses based on their high school GPA—not just test scores. Also, more options for testing are now available beyond ACT and Accuplacer. Notably, certain students will be required to take corequisites for Math and/or English. The corequisite course

would be two or three hours, depending on the student's academic scores. Finally, S. Gill pointed out that two tracks were available to students depending on whether or not they had test scores.

S. Gill commented that LSUA was missing out on getting some good students, so these changes should change that. She mentioned that some students would fall under the "exceptions" category—these are students who do not meet any of LSUA's admissions criteria. Part of the advising process for students who have exceptions will include an Accuplacer exam. S. Gill noted that LSUA can only make exceptions for 8% of first-time freshmen from last year or 10% transfer.

S. Gill went on to offer more context on these admissions changes. Currently, remedials cannot be offered at all in Louisiana. Instead, colleges are now offering two or 3-hour corequisites in Math and English. In terms of LSUA, students who need a 2-hour English/Math and 2-hour English/Math or students who need 2-hour English/Math and 3-hour English/Math are admissible to LSUA but students who need 3-hour English/Math and 3-hour English/Math are not admissible. One exception is students could be admitted if they need 3-hour and 3-hour corequisites for English/Math as long as they have the required GPA.

C. Corbat pointed out that we could be more stringent if we wanted, these are just a minimum to go by. S. Gill said that's true but no other schools are doing that.

C. Corbat expressed concern because we are looking at enrollment numbers but not academic results. One example is grade inflation. R. Gaspard asked if SACS would look at that. C. Corbat said we can choose what numbers we turn over to them. They do not dictate how we do our business as long as we follow the policies that have been put in place. Somewhere along the line, somebody has to stand up for "enrollment numbers don't mean quality."

J. Innerarity said these changes are good because some transfer students come in with 1.9 GPA and they struggle. S. Gill said those students are admitted as exceptions.

J. Gill said as far as Education, students can now enter into blocks without Praxis 1; as long as they meet criteria to enter the university, they can enter into blocks with the appropriate GPA. They will need to pass Praxis 2 to enter student teaching.

S. Gill stated that because we have extra out-of-state exceptions now, we are not running out of exception admits. Some upper-level students who come in as exceptions are admitted if they could have been admitted as a freshman.

C. Corbat observed that a lot of these new admissions criteria seem to be hinging on high school GPA.

M. LaBorde asked if we are keeping data on how these students are being admitted. S. Gill said that yes, we have to keep track of how students are admitted etc.

J. Gill asked when these new admissions requirements would be in place. S. Gill said they would start in fall 2023.

J. Innerarity asked for more clarification on the 60 x 30 plan mentioned earlier. S. Gill said Louisiana adults should have some level of post-secondary education—not just a degree, but any certification or credential.

S. Gill stated that another change to keep in mind is that Dual Enrollment (DE) has changed a bit. Students can now get into an English class if their high school gives them a recommendation.

D. Wood stated that she had heard some kids will not need a senior-level English any more in high school. S. Gill said that is what DE is—when they take that college English, that counts as their 4th English. Some schools require ENGL 1001 and 1002 for English IV.

C. Corbat commented that these changes are almost like going back to open admission. She stated that it would be simpler for all if we went back to open admissions. Effectively, BOR are making so many rules for so many people, this is essentially open admission.

P. Gurjar joined the meeting.

P. Gurjar stated that GRE requirements are being dropped for Chemistry graduate schools.

C. Corbat explained that each school is supposed to be coming up with a prior learning assessment (PLA) policy per these new changes from the BOR. They will be looking at adult students and their prior learning. J. Gill asked about the prior learning assessment and wondered if an example would be credit applied when military students are admitted. C. Corbat said it would be like if you worked for 30 years in business, you could get credit for marketing. The credit cannot be more than 25% of your degree which is 30 hours.

Discussion ensued regarding different school's standards for DE admission.

C. Corbat asked whether or not Jerri Weston could come in to explain how we are going to develop a PLA policy since it would involve awarding credit.

S. Gill left the meeting.

Committee Reports:

C&C 2.13.23

C. Corbat noted that the items under consideration were almost entirely Communications.

J. Gill made a motion to receive the minutes

R. Gaspard seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat stated that the first item is an addition of new courses: CMST 2035 Social Media: Story and Strategy, CMST 2101 Digital Content Creation, CMST 2500 Digital Media

Production, CMST 4040 Sports Communication, and CMST 4300 Digital Storytelling. In all, there are five new proposed CMST courses.

M. LaBorde stated the department is trying to do this in a way that will be sustainable, i.e. avoiding buzzwords that can become outdated. These courses are for a new concentration—Digital Storytelling but could also be used for a variety of other things.

J. Gill moved to approve the courses as a group

M. LaBorde seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat motioned to approve the five new courses for CMST: CMST 2035, 2101, 2500, 4040, and 4300.

P. Gurjar seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat said now we have some minors to consider. M. LaBorde explained the proposed minors are really just their concentrations but now they are being offered as minors.

C. Corbat stated the proposed minors included: Minor in Digital Storytelling, Minor in Human Relationships, Minor in Public Relations, and Minor in Sports Communication.

C. Corbat motioned to approve all four minors

D. Wood seconded the motion.

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat stated the next item to consider is the deletion of the minor in Sports Broadcasting.

J. Gill motioned to approve the deletion of the Sports Broadcasting minor

D. Wood seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat stated we need to consider a modification to the degree: BA in Communication Studies. The modification entails taking away a concentration in Visual Communication and adding the Digital Storytelling concentration

M. LaBorde moved to approve modification to the BA in Communication Studies degree

M. Stokes seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

C. Corbat explained we needed to consider a Coda at the end of the 2.13.23 C&C minutes. In the Coda, the concentration in Human Relationships was questioned. The department has asked to revert to the prior title, "Communication in Human Relationships." Discussion ensued. It was noted that the paperwork in Sharepoint folder is not consistent with what is described in Coda. R. Elder pointed out the new CurricuLog system would take care of issues like this. C. Corbat agreed.

C. Corbat motioned that we vote on the modification to the BA in Communication Studies as seen before us regardless of what the C&C minutes say.

M. LaBorde seconded the motion

Vote: 11-0-0

Old Business:

ICC—Senate Ad-hoc committee

J. Gill stated she would send a draft of the charges to the senators as well as to R. Elder.

Chancellor's Funds – update

J. Gill stated that P. Gurjar and R. Gaspard agreed they would start working on a set of regulations for next year, so if we want to add or contribute anything, let them know. M. LaBorde thanked them for agreeing to do that.

It was noted that almost all of the funds were awarded, which is a good thing.

Advising Concerns – Report

J. Gill stated that she and B. Alwell will meet with Dr. Bain to discuss P grade issues.

Bookstore

No updates.

Update RE Revision of Policy Statements

PS 202 (A&B)

J. Gill stated she has not heard any updates. The PS 202 ad hoc committee has reported that their goal is to have the document ready in April.

Admin Committees List

J. Gill continues to request the list from Administration.

CurricuLog Update

C. Corbat and J. Gill met with Deron Thaxton. J. Gill said C. Corbat mentioned she would start training sessions for department chairs once the university “folder” is set up.

New Business:

R. Elder mentioned that there is a communication problem with the Registrar's office. As of yesterday, students could not enroll in two online courses because of a time conflict. M. LaBorde mentioned that she had heard that the recent upgrade created an issue they had fixed a couple of years ago.

R. Elder emphasized that the issue is the Registrar's Office never communicated there was an issue when they found out about it and never told faculty it was fixed. Faculty had to hear about

it from students. B. Alwell noted that she had multiple/dozens of emails Monday morning about the issue. Someone pointed out the issue mainly affected online students.

J. Gill asked if the Registrar learned about the issue yesterday when it first occurred or did they anticipate it. It was noted that some of the administrative assistants knew about it on Friday prior to the registration period.

M. Stokes brought up recent construction on the second floor of Mulder Hall. He mentioned that the noises were in close proximity to his classes and he had to move. Other similar comments were made by those present.

M. LaBorde left the meeting.

Announcements:

J. Gill announced that April 4th is the QEP kickoff. Her request was for everyone to complete the survey when possible.

March 27th Honors Convocation 5:30

March 28th Employee Recognition Dinner 5:00 6:00

March 29th LSUA Giving Day

April 4th QEP Kickoff

April 5th is All Campus Meeting

April 3rd is also the deadline for Scholar's Day application for students (could be the 13th)

April 21st is the Groundbreaking for the Martin Student Success Center

April 20th Crawfish Boil SGA

Next meeting: April 11th, 2023 3:00 pm

Adjournment:

D. Wood made a motion to adjourn

G. Ke seconded the motion

Vote: 10-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm

Faculty Senate Agenda
March 21, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
Live Oaks Room

- I. Welcome and Determination of quorum
- II. Approval of minutes
 - 1. February 7, 2023
- III. Report of President
- IV. Reports of Committees
 - C&C 2.13.23
- V. Old business
 - ICC – Senate Ad-hoc committee
 - Chancellor’s Funds - update
 - Advising Concerns - Report
 - Update RE Revision of Policy Statements
 - PS 202 (A& B)
 - Administrative Committees List
 - CurricuLog Update
 - Bookstore
- VI. Introduction of new business
 - PS 206 – update with policy revision
- VII. Announcements/Looking ahead
 - Next meeting: April 11, 2023 at 3 p.m.
 - Please send *Pats on the Back* to Julie and/or share at Senate Meetings
 - Departmental accomplishments
- VIII. Adjournment

Courses & Curriculum Committee
Minutes
February 13, 2023

Present: Alice Blackwell, Sandra Purifoy, Laurie Pittman, Richard Elder, Beverly Alwell (proxy for Bob Jones), Chris Stacey, Cole Franklin, Conley Hathorn, Michael Waller, Andrew Pham, John Allen

Absent: Jennifer Dupont, Beth Whittington

Guest: Jessica Thacker

Once a quorum was established, the meeting began at 12:01 pm.

The minutes from January 23, 2023, were reviewed. Changes included adding a punctuation mark and clarifying the source of the funding needed to teach ECHO 3001 by the area hospitals. Additional language was added to reflect that Dr. Joiner reiterated the need for the certificate in Echocardiography and the Advisory Committee's input in crafting the courses for the certificate. Dr. Conley Hathorn made a motion to approve the minutes with Laurie Pittman seconding. The minutes were approved 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Two members of the Committee were not present at this vote.

Dr. Blackwell proposed, at the outset of the consideration of the CMST materials, that the materials be batched for voting (e. g., the courses batched for vote, the addition of minors batched for vote). The agenda for 2/13 laid out these "batch categories." All items would be reviewed individually, but vote on the courses (for example) would be as a batch. Dr. Cole Franklin made a motion to batch vote the CMST courses after each had been reviewed individually; same with the minors. Mr. Michael Waller seconded the motion. The motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Two members were not present to vote.

The first course reviewed was CMST 2035, *Social Media: Story and Strategy*. In reviewing the CSS the 6-digit CIP Code was noted along with the department approval. Jessica Thacker, the CMST chair, explained that this new course was previously taught as a Special Topics course in the department. CMST 2035 was developed because of its relevance and popularity with students. Ms. Thacker explained that digital storytelling includes more than graphic design. Students would learn to do podcasts and use emerging technologies. The RIS revealed that additional faculty were required; however, a possible adjunct is willing to teach the course if approved. The course descriptions and objectives were in alignment with no discussion needed.

Next CMST 2101, *Digital Content Creation*, was reviewed. The proposed course was approved by the department as noted in the CSS. In addition, the course would be required for two of the minors in Communication Studies. The course was noted having 2 lecture hours and 2 lab hours per week with a total of 3 semester credit hours. The course will focus on teaching digital content of various media platforms. Furthermore, all signatures on the forms were noted.

Following the discussion on CMST 2101, CMST 2500, *Digital Media Production*, was discussed. This course would be required for the Sports Communication Minor. The department approved the course as noted on the CSS, however, the RIS noted an adjunct may be needed to teach the course similar to the other courses proposed. No other discussion was held on this course.

CMST 4040, *Sports Communication*, was reviewed. The CSS noted the CIP, signatures, and department approval were indicated on the form. This course is proposed as a non-general education course. It will be required for the proposed Sports Communication minor. The RIS noted adjuncts may be needed to be hired to teach the course. Furthermore, the course description and course objectives were in alignment. No further discussion was held.

The last new course addition, CMST 4300, *Digital Storytelling*, was discussed. The prerequisite of permission of instructor was noted. The course would be required for the Digital Storytelling curriculum. All the required elements of the CSS were noted along with the possible need to hire an adjunct to teach the course as indicated on the RIS. After reviewing the course description and course objectives, no other discussion was held once the alignment between the two was established. Dr. Chris Stacey moved to approve all five Communication Studies courses with Dr. Conley Hathorn seconding. The motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Two members of the Committee were not present to vote.

Since the courses were approved, the Minor in Digital Storytelling was reviewed. The proposed minor consists of 18 credit hours that includes all the courses in the curriculum plus one additional 3 credit hour course, which is CMST 2060, *Public Speaking*. Three of the newly approved courses, CMST 2035, CMST 2101, and CMST 4300, are proposed in addition to the remaining 9 credit hours being courses that are already being taught as outlined on the curriculum request on Form AC. The RIS noted the possible hire of an adjunct to teach courses for this minor.

The next minor, Minor in Human Relationships, was reviewed. The 18-credit hour minor would complement a psychology or criminal justice major. All the courses in this minor are currently being taught. No issues with Form AC or the RIS were indicated. However, the RIS indicated the possible need to hire an adjunct to teach the courses.

Next a review of the Minor in Public Relations was conducted. Jessica Thacker explained the benefit to business majors this 18-credit hour minor could have for students as they enter the workplace. No changes or issues were noted with the courses proposed in the minor. These courses are currently already being taught. The RIS, however, did note the possible need to hire an adjunct to teach the courses. No further discussion was held.

Lastly, the Minor in Sports Communication was discussed. At first, this might appear to be the same as the old Minor in Sports Broadcasting, but it is not. Ms. Thacker had previously explained that when the things that used to be done by the media team under the auspices of the CMST department moved to Strategic Communications, students were no longer able to pursue a minor in Sports Broadcasting for the simple reason that those operations are no longer under the purview of CMST. The Department is proposing a Minor in Sports Communications instead to

better meet the needs of students, which could include other majors, such as kinesiology. This new minor will focus on a wider variety of skills than the previous minor. The 18-credit hour minor includes three of the newly approved courses, CMST 2101, CMST 2500, and CMST 4300, besides courses that are already being taught. Thacker noted CMST 1061 was listed, which was an error on the form. There were 7 courses listed for a total of 21-credit hours, which was not what was voted upon by the department. Thacker and Cole Franklin approved Dr. Eamon Halpin deleting CMST 1061 from Form AC making the minor 18-credit hours.

Dr. Cole Franklin asked to review the Minor in Human Relationships again. He noted a typographical error in the title of the minor on the form where a new curriculum is added. Dr. Franklin and Jessica Thacker were in agreement to have Dr. Halpin change the title to Minor in Human Relationships from Minor in Public Relationships. No other changes were needed since the proposal contained the correct title of the minor.

Dr. Hathorn then made a motion to accept the four minors with Dr. John Allen seconding the motion. The motion passed with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

Dr. Blackwell noted Sandra Purifoy was leaving the meeting due to another scheduled meeting. However, since the meeting was being recorded, she will review the recording and record the remaining items on the agenda and votes from the recording.

The deletion of the Minor in Sports Broadcasting was then discussed briefly. Thacker explained that both the minor and the concentration in sports broadcasting needed to be deleted. Because the deletion of the minor was a separate form that had not yet been reviewed by the committee and was not on the agenda, it could not be voted on at this time.

The committee then looked at the overall the Modification of the BA in Communication Studies. According to Ms. Thacker, the Visual Communication concentration was problematic and will be replaced by the Digital Storytelling concentration. The Sports Broadcasting and Communications concentration will be replaced with the Sports Communication concentration. Other changes involved revising diction in order to highlight the flexibility of the BA degree and its applicability for workplace needs. An edit was indicated for the catalog title “Communication in Human Relationships.” For consistency’s sake, the wording, “Communication in” was edited to reflect just “Human Relationships” as the curriculum title. The description for the Public Relations curriculum was rewritten by the department. Lastly the Visual Communication and Sports Broadcasting and Communications concentrations descriptions were replaced with descriptions of the new concentrations, Digital Storytelling and Sports Communications. Laurie Pittman noted inconsistencies in the verb tense. These minor grammar errors were corrected.

Dr. Stacy made a motion to approve the Modification of the BA in Communication Studies as proposed with Dr. Richard Elder seconding the motion. The motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Three members were not present to vote.

Laurie Pittman moved to adjourn with Conley Hathorn seconding the motion. The motion carried with 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Three members were not present for the vote.

The meeting officially adjourned at 12:59 pm.

Coda: subsequent to this meeting, the title of the concentration in Human Relationships was questioned. The department has asked to revert to the prior title, "Communication in Human Relationships." The Modification will be voted on 3/6/2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Purifoy
Secretary