

**Texas Tech University
College of Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Programs
(ASCAP)**

**Minutes
Meeting of November 28, 2005**

A scheduled meeting of the Arts and Sciences Committee on Academic Programs convened at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 28, 2005 in Holden Hall 129. Committee members present were Borst, Curzer, Hubbard, Neusel, Stoll, Von Ende, and Stewart (Chair). Guests present were proposal representatives Dr. Pete Christiansen and Dr. Mark Webb (Philosophy).

Regular Session

ASCAP voted to accept for recommendation to the Graduate School the following two proposals from the Department of Philosophy, conditional on some minor revisions as indicated:

1. Graduate Certificate Program in Ethics
 - *Title the proposal a certificate program rather than a certification program.*
 - *Make it clearer that the various course options do often provide substantial units on ethics.*
 - *State some specifics that will distinguish the work of graduate students in PHIL 7000 when it is piggy-backed with undergraduate ethics courses.*

2. BA-to-MA Program in Philosophy (Department of Philosophy)
 - *Acquire the concurrence of the A&S Student Division and of the Graduate School that graduate courses will be applicable to the bachelor's degree when completed in the final two semesters of the bachelor's program.*
 - *Under the two program summaries, state that the 9 graduate hours are also applicable to the bachelor's degree, rather than "counted as graduate courses."*
 - *The chairperson's signature is required on Graduate Certificate Program proposals.*

Closed Session

ASCAP acknowledged receipt of expected learning outcomes and assessments for the three degree programs in the Department of History:

Department of History
Bachelor of Arts in History
Master of Arts in History
Doctor of Philosophy in History

Review of these assessment plans indicated that all three:

- Clearly state the purpose of the degree program.
- Provide several expected learning outcomes for the degree program that appear consistent with the stated purpose of the program.
- Provide a method of assessment for each of the expected learning outcomes, and that each assessment method is program focused (not course or student focused).

Review of these plans raised some points of note for other units to consider while completing their degree program assessment plans:

- *Degree titles are to be spelled out in whole words, not with acronyms (e.g., "Bachelor of Arts in History," not "B.A. in History.")*

- *Although assessment methods can include some that will be developed in the near future, they must also include some that are currently available for data collection this semester and next.*
- *Assessment methods can rely on specified course assignments that measure stated program outcomes, but how such an assignment indicates attainment of the outcome should be clearly indicated. (e.g., How does a research paper in Course XYZ indicate the targeted program-level learning outcome?)*
- *All faculty who teach in each degree program are to be given opportunity to review and provide input to the department's learning outcomes and assessment plans.*

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of ASCAP is Monday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m. for proposals that reach committee by Monday, December 5.