

**Texas Tech University
Academic Council**

**Meeting of October 15, 2019
1:30 PM, Library Room 309**

Attendance

Present: Cindy Akers, Dennis Arnett, Kathy Austin, Andrea Bilkey, Bobbie Brown, Todd Chambers, Mayukh Dass, David Doerfert, Cathy Duran, Clifton Ellis (for Mary Alice Torres-MacDonald), Kristi Gaines, Greg Glaus, Sheila Gray (for Jamie Hansard), Lindsay Hallowell, Bret Hendricks, Sheila Hoover, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Darryl James, Michelle Kiser, Amy Koerber, Mitzi Lauderdale, Mitch Locke, Justin Louder, Pat McConnel, Allison Myhra, David Rivero, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Rob Stewart, Presiding, Carol Sumner, Patricia Vitela, Janessa Walls, Dana Weiser, Vickie West, Aliza Wong.

Guests: Nik Dhurandhar, Dale Ganus, Lydia Kloiber, Angela Lumpkin, Dee Nguyen for Staff Senate, and Sarah Schwintz

Action Items:

1. Associate Deans are asked to brainstorm ideas to increase student attendance at football games and let Stewart know of any ideas that emerge.
2. Associate Deans are to review the proposed 2024-2025 academic calendar and to contact Lindsay Hallowell with any questions or concerns.
3. Hallowell, Austin, Duran, and Brown agreed to form a committee to discuss the concerns voiced about the proposed 2024-2025 academic calendar and to present findings at the November Council meeting.

Stewart called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with a discussion of the President's and Athletic Director's expressed desire to increase student attendance at football games. Stewart opened the floor for recommendations from Council members. Sumner recommended to build spirit by creating a competition among the colleges. To accomplish this, each college could sponsor a game and would be responsible for promoting that game to the university to encourage attendance, and then the colleges would compete to see which one gets the most students to attend their sponsored game.

In addition, Dass recommended creating an economic demand for the games by allocating tickets to the games. Rivero commented that SGA is already working on recommendations, and one idea they are exploring is preferred seating for student organizations within the student section. Other recommendations included recognitions and special seating for students who stay through halftime. Dass also mentioned the possibility of partnering with third-party companies to offer mobile game services during the game. Students would be required to be in the general vicinity to participate, and the students could win prizes by participating in the mobile games. Stewart requested that Council members continue to brainstorm and send recommendations to him.

Stewart then introduced the minutes from the September Council meeting. With no additional discussion, Akers moved to approve the minutes, Doerfert seconded, and the minutes were approved as presented.

The Council then heard a report from Ganus regarding the recent updates to Xtender to make the system web-based and more accessible. The hope is to increase the usage of Xtender throughout the university to continue decreasing paper consumption. Ganus reported that many entities across TTU System already utilize Xtender to improve efficiency; for example, CASNR uses Xtender to annotate student Graduation Checkout files, which every necessary party can access via Xtender. Xtender also has a security function so colleges can customize folder access at the departmental or individual level. The platform can also be used to upload documents to be submitted to various departments across campus or to external entities.

Upon completion of Ganus' report, Stewart jumped to item 7 on the agenda and introduced the two proposed 2024-2025 academic calendar options. Hollowell outlined each calendar option and explained their respective benefits and drawbacks. After several concerns were voiced, Stewart asked for volunteers to form a working group to address pros and cons of the current calendar options. Hollowell, Austin, Duran, and Brown indicated willingness to participate and to present any findings at the November Council meeting.

Stewart then skipped to item 9 and introduced the summary of course proposals. Hollowell clarified that effective dates in green had been changed and that yellow highlighting indicated minor typographical errors that had been corrected. Hollowell also mentioned that PHIL 2360 was being held pending further discussions. Roach pointed out that KIN 3307 was also being held, pending a discussion to be held during the Council meeting. With those two items excepted, there were no other questions or comments, and Wong moved to approve the course proposals, Chambers seconded, and the courses were approved.

The Council then heard the list of program proposals. Stewart explained that the proposal to reduce the credit hour requirement of the Multidisciplinary Studies program was being tabled, as the College of Education intended to propose a SCH increase instead of a decrease. Stewart then introduced the items requiring a Council vote. These items consisted of a CIP code change for the Kinesiology degree; a nine-hour graduate certificate in Life Centered Planning; and a proposal to change the title of the B.S. in Multidisciplinary Studies to a B.S. in Education. With no questions, Doerfert moved to approve, Roach seconded, and the proposals were approved.

Stewart then brought the Council's attention to the informational items on the summary of program proposals. In lieu of describing each proposal, Stewart opened the floor for discussion. Roach raised a question regarding how the proposed Integrative Studies minor in Healthcare Organizations is different from the various health-centered interdisciplinary minors currently available. Schwintz explained that this minor is designed for place-bound students and will consist of introductory courses. Iber requested a list of the courses required for the minor, and Stewart recommended that Schwintz send the courses to Te'Ree to distribute to the Council. Next, Louder asked if the Fashion Merchandizing minor will be online. Lauderdale clarified that the minor will be campus-bound for now. With no further discussion, the Council moved to the next item of business.

The Council heard a discussion of the proposed KIN 3307 Language of Kinesiology course and its similarity to the existing NS 4220 Medical Terminology course. Roach introduced guest Angela Lumpkin from Kinesiology and Sport Management and opened the floor for her to discuss the proposal for the course. Lumpkin explained that the department created KIN 3307 to fill a gap in the curriculum to help their 1347 students succeed in their coursework and in the exercise physiology industry. Lumpkin does not believe NS 4220 is an equivalent course in content, instructor qualifications, credit hours, and student population.

After Lumpkin concluded, Lauderdale introduced guests Kloiber and Dhurandhar from Nutritional Sciences. Kloiber explained that Nutritional Sciences believes the courses are duplicative in content, as both courses focus on medical terminology, which she believes remains the same regardless of discipline. She emphasized that the textbooks are extremely similar.

Lumpkin was invited to respond to Kloiber. She expressed that Kinesiology is an exercise physiology-based program and therefore needs a course designed specifically for their students. She stated that the department has the resources to teach the course.

Dhurandhar was then invited to respond to Lumpkin. He explained that KIN 3307 is a medical terminology course and is therefore duplicative. In response to Lumpkin's concern regarding instructor qualifications, Dhurandhar expressed that a medical terminology course can be taught by a variety of instructors because the content is definitional and not discipline-specific. He continued by reiterating that of the 14 chapters of the proposed KIN 3307 textbook, 12 are identical to the NS 4220 textbook. He concluded by stating that the duplication of courses is an improper use of resources according to university policy.

After Dhurandhar concluded, Stewart opened the floor for questions. Doerfert asked how frequently NS 4220 is taught. Kloiber explained that it is offered in large sections every term with multiple sections when necessary. Doerfert also asked Lumpkin if outsourcing the terminology course to Nutritional Sciences would free up Kinesiology faculty to teach other courses. Lumpkin responded that it is the responsibility of a department to meet the needs of its students. She then expressed that the KIN 3307 course is designed to provide a deeper look into medical terminology than the NS 4220 course. Lumpkin then mentioned the precedent set by the separate courses for applied sport psychology housed in the departments of Psychological Sciences and Kinesiology.

Sumner then drew a correlation between a medical terminology course taught through the frame of Kinesiology compared to the frame of Nutritional Sciences to a statistics course designed for education majors compared to one designed for engineers. She highlighted the precedent of discipline-specific courses of similar content to suit the needs of the students with a degree program. Dhurandhar agreed with the nature of Sumner's point but expressed that the definitions will remain the same regardless of the discipline. Lumpkin explained that the course is intended to cover the application of the terms to the human body in motion, not just the terms themselves. Kloiber mentioned that the word "application" is not listed in the learning outcomes for KIN 3307.

Hughes asked that if this course will serve as a glossary of terms, why it is separated from the courses that use those terms. Lumpkin explained that the course is designed to prepare students to be successful in future courses and that the learning outcomes imply application. Sumner then suggested the addition of the word “applied” to the course description to help distinguish the courses from each other.

Koerber then voiced the concern of setting a precedent for duplicating courses. She also mentioned the general workplace demand for students to be able to communicate across disciplines and that creating discipline-specific courses conflicts with that demand.

Stewart then thanked the guests and dismissed them to allow the Council to deliberate. Wong asked whether the KIN 3307 would be offered online, and Stewart clarified that the course is designed as face-to-face and that the NS 4220 course is offered online. Louder mentioned that the Kinesiology program had just been proposed as a regional online program. Stewart asked if the KIN 3307 will be a required course, but Roach was unsure. Lauderdale pointed out that online and face-to-face courses should be the same, but Stewart mentioned that the intended audience could vary.

Wong asked if the Kinesiology students who had taken the NS 4220 course were unhappy with the course, and Lauderdale explained that such a dialogue was unable to commence. Myrha mentioned a similar situation with the Law School and how entities shared a course, with various instructors teaching discipline-specific sections. Lauderdale suggested creating a one-hour course to fill the gap between the two disciplines as a collaborative solution. Koerber expressed that the two entities should collaborate to find a mutually beneficial solution. Stewart asked for a motion to that effect. Koerber so moved, Hendricks seconded, and the motion was approved.

The next item of business was the proposal to standardize intersession grading. Bobbie explained that since no standard policy exists, the proposed standardization will ensure intersession grades are submitted in a timely manner. Wong moved to approve the standardization, Lauderdale seconded, and the standardized language was approved. The grading schedule will be effective immediately.

Stewart then introduced the proposal to clarify the language of the undergraduate grade replacement policy. Stewart called for a motion. Iber moved, Koerber seconded, and the grade replacement language was approved. The Council also discussed the implications of colleges setting limits for the number of attempts to successfully complete certain courses. The grade replacement policy revision will be effective Fall 2020.

The final item of business concerned the submissions for New and Changes to Existing Core and/or Multicultural Courses. Stewart notified the Council that the outcomes of those courses currently under review will be provided on November 11.

With no other business or announcements, Iber moved to adjourn the meeting, and with everyone in agreement, the meeting was adjourned.