

**Texas Tech University  
Academic Council**

**Meeting of October 15, 2024  
1:30 PM, TLPDC, Room 151 and via Zoom**

**Attendance**

**Present:** Cindy Akers (Chair), Nurcan Bac, Andrea Bilkey, Holli Booe, Stefanie Borst, Ashlee Brown, Bobbie Brown, Deedee Brown-Campbell, Chad Cain, Todd Chambers, Christiana Christofides, Robert Cox, John Dascanio, Mayukh Dass, Debbie Davis, Dottie Durband, Mahyar Hadighi, Lindsay Hollowell, Kaelene Hansen, Raegan Higgins, Wendy-Adele Humphrey, Amy Koerber, Rodney Lackey, Mitzi Lauderdale, Ryan Litsey, Pat McConnel, Jerrod Nutt, Paul Ruiz, Pradip Sahu, Kymberli Saldaña, Sarah Schwintz, Brian Shannon, Amelia Talley, Clay Taylor, Abigail Vega, Dino Villegas, and Janessa Walls.

<b>Action Items:</b>
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| 1. None. |
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Akers called the meeting to order by presenting the minutes from the September meeting. Hearing no discussion, Akers declared the minutes approved.

For the next item of business, Hollowell introduced the summary of course proposals, beginning with the voting items, which were items 1-16. With no discussion, Akers called for a motion. Cox moved, Schwintz seconded, and the courses were approved. Hollowell then highlighted the informational items.

Next, Hollowell introduced the program proposals, beginning with the voting items, which were items 1-10. In response to the proposed new Arts & Sciences Multidisciplinary Sciences, B.G.S. program and the name change from University Studies, B.A. to Interdisciplinary Studies, B.A., Cox asked about having both undergraduate and graduate programs named multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary studies and wondered if using common terms for certain types of programs would prevent confusion. Akers mentioned putting together a working group through Associate Deans to look at the various interdisciplinary program titles. Chambers suggested involving admissions in the working group. Hearing no other discussion of the programs, Akers called for a motion. Villegas moved, Bac seconded, and the programs were approved.

Hollowell then summarized the informational items, which were all curricular changes with effective dates of fall 2025. (N.B. After the meeting, Akers and Hollowell discussed and agreed to change the effective date of the Natural Resources Management Ranch Management and Range Conservation curricular changes from fall 2025 to fall 2024, as these were two additional programs negatively impacted by the SCH change from AAEC 2401 to 2301.)

For the next item of business, Hollowell introduced the 5-year planning calendars, which include potential fall break options. She mentioned that the base 2025-26 through 2027-28 calendars had previously been reviewed and approved by Academic Council, but the fall break discussions could affect those calendars. Hollowell explained that she wanted to allow the Council members to review the 2025-26 through 2029-30 calendars with the fall break options for a future vote.

Hallowell explained that the various fall break options include the prospective contact hours. One option adds a few more contact hours to get us closer to the THECB's requirement of 45. The Council members discussed potential changes to the proposed calendars, such as days earlier in the week or the break spanning a weekend. It was also discussed that the proposed fall break timing is likely to align with Homecoming each year. Akers clarified that fall break had not been approved, but it is her understanding that the SGA President is intending to continue those discussions.

Next, A. Brown presented proposed drafts of five new 8-week calendars for approved online programs. A. Brown explained some of the decisions behind the structure of the 8-week calendars, such as not including spring break or reserved finals days because the student population using these calendars does not have those needs. The goal is to transition all fully online students from the simultaneously presented 16-week calendar to the 8-week calendars.

The Council discussed the implications for both students and faculty with the proposed first 8-week term in August 2025 overlapping with full summer and late summer 2025, in which courses have already been scheduled. One suggestion included implementing the new calendars in spring 2026 so as not to interfere with already scheduled summer classes. Another concern was the calendar structure potentially disincentivizing faculty from teaching online courses. Akers, A. Brown, and B. Brown added that they plan to present these calendars with the various questions and concerns for further discussions later in the fall.

For the next item of business, McConnel explained that College Board has a new AP Pre-Calculus exam. The recommendation from the Math department is to offer credit for either MATH 1550 or MATH 1330 depending on the student's major. Lauderdale added that they would like to apply this new process for students who came in this fall. To that end, Lauderdale asked if the Council would entertain a vote. Talley moved, Villegas seconded, and the motion passed.

As an informational item, Taylor notified the Council members of the recent transfer MOU signed with Frank Phillips College and the upcoming MOU to be signed with Temple College.

For an announcement, Lauderdale explained that the Provost has recommended for Carol of Lights to be moved to Sunday so it will not interfere with campus activities. Hallowell asked if this move will apply to future academic years and if she should update the planning calendars to include Carol of Lights on Sundays going forward. Akers and Lauderdale agreed that updating the planning calendars would be a good idea.

Hearing no other business or announcements, Akers called for a motion. Cox moved, and Akers adjourned the meeting.

Voting Items: Courses							
Add New Course							
No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Description	Hours/Activity Type	Modality	Effective
1	AG	ANSC 5321	Epidemiology in Animal Welfare Science	Explores fundamental epidemiological concepts, including causation, sampling, study design, critical appraisal, and statistical modeling, and the application of these concepts in measuring human and animal health-related outcomes.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F	Spring 2025
2	AS	HIST 1112	History at Texas Tech and You	Introduces students to the vibrant community at TTU and strengthens peer-to-peer and student-to-faculty relationships to help students, particularly first-generation, under-represented, and non-traditional students, feel more comfortable about the transition to Tech.	1:1:0:0 Lecture	F2F	Spring 2025
3	VP	IVPA 5330	Introduction to the Field of Arts in Health	Explores the theoretical foundations of the relationship between creativity and health and will serve as an introduction to the emerging field and practice of arts in medicine.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F	Spring 2025
4	AS	MBIO 5310	Foundations of Microbiologic Research	Provides training in conducting modern microbiological research in academic and industry settings; discusses current research topics, experimental design, etc.	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F	Spring 2025
5	AS	RE 5303	Data Science for Renewable Energy	Covers the application of the Data Science Method (DSM) for Renewable Energy specific applications. [RE 4303]	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, Online	Spring 2025
6	AS	RE 5307	Renewable Energy Grid Integration	Gives students a deeper understanding of the electric grid and the integration of renewable energy into the regional, state, and national electric grids. [RE 4307]	3:3:0:0 Lecture	F2F, Online	Spring 2025
7	AS	SPAN 5395	Multiliteracies, Multilingualism, and Communication	Focuses on how multilingual and multicultural individuals develop digital multimodal forms of communication to raise identity awareness through multilingual and translanguaging practices.	3:3:0:0 Seminar, Discussion	F2F	Spring 2026

Change Credit/Contact Hours					
No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Change Requested	Effective Term
8	VP	THA 5351	Mentoring Community Outreach in the Arts	Change contact hours to 3:3:0:3	Spring 2025

Change Course Prefix				
No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Effective Term
9	AS	<b>Proposed:</b> MBIO 3403  <b>Current:</b> ZOOL 3403	Parasitology	Fall 2025

Delete Course				
No.	College	Prefix & No.	Title	Effective Term
10	VP	ART 3331	Intermediate Ceramics: Handbuilding	Spring 2025
11	UN	MILS 1103	Personal Fitness and Wellness	Spring 2025

Multiple Changes							
No.	College	Change Type	Prefix & No.	Title	Description	Credit/Contact Hours / CIP Code / Activity Type / eLearning	Effective Term
12	AS	Number, Credit/Contact Hours	<b>Proposed:</b> BIOL 6430 <b>Current:</b> BIOL 6330	Fluorescence Microscopy		Increase credit/contact hours from 3 to 4:3:0:3	Spring 2025
13	AS	Number, Tandem Course	<b>Proposed:</b> RE 4303 <b>Current:</b> RE 3303	Data Science for Renewable Energy	Add tandem designation with RE 5303		Spring 2025
14	AS	Number, Tandem Course	<b>Proposed:</b> RE 4307 <b>Current:</b> RE 4300	Renewable Energy Grid Integration	Add tandem designation with RE 5307		Spring 2025
15	AS	Prefix, Number, Tandem Course	<b>Proposed:</b> BIOL 4418 <b>Current:</b> ZOOL 4408	General Ornithology	Change tandem course number to BIOL 5418		Fall 2025
16	AS	Prefix, Number, Tandem Course	<b>Proposed:</b> BIOL 5418 <b>Current:</b> ZOOL 5408	Advanced Orinthology	Change tandem course number to BIOL 4418		Fall 2025

Voting Items: Programs							
Add New Program							
No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Modality/Campus	Hours	Effective Term
1	EN	Computer Science	Undergraduate Minor	Artificial Intelligence, Undergraduate Minor	F2F	20	Spring 2025
2	AS	Dean's Office	Bachelor of General Studies	Arts & Sciences Multidisciplinary Studies, B.G.S.	F2F, Hybrid, 100% Online	120	Fall 2025
3	AS	Dean's Office	Bachelor of Science	Arts & Sciences Multidisciplinary Studies, B.S.	F2F, Hybrid, 100% Online	120	Fall 2025
4	VP	Interdisciplinary Arts	Graduate Certificate	Arts and Health, Graduate Certificate	F2F	15	Spring 2025
5	VP	Theatre & Dance	Undergraduate Minor	Theatre Arts - Sound Design, Undergraduate Minor	F2F	18	Fall 2024

Title Change						
No.	College	Department	Program Type	Title	Change Requested	Effective Term
6	US	School of Professional Studies	Bachelor of Arts	<b>Proposed:</b> Interdisciplinary Studies, B.A.  <b>Current:</b> University Studies, B.A.	Change program title	Fall 2025
7	VP	Music	Undergraduate Certificate	<b>Proposed:</b> Vernacular Music, Undergraduate Certificate  <b>Current:</b> World Music, Undergraduate Certificate	Change program title	Fall 2025

Administrative Unit Change					
No.	College	Department	Program Title	Action	Effective Term
8	HS	Dean's Office	Family and Consumer Sciences Education, B.S.	Move program to new Interdisciplinary Human Sciences department	Spring 2025
9	HS	Dean's Office	Human Sciences, B.A.A.S.	Move program to new Interdisciplinary Human Sciences department	Spring 2025
10	HS	Dean's Office	Human Sciences, B.S.	Move program to new Interdisciplinary Human Sciences department	Spring 2025