

# Meeting Minutes – BSC Faculty Senate

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**Location:** Google Meet

**Date:** January 19, 2021

**Time:** 3:00 pm

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## **Attendance:**

Darrell Thompson, James Pruet, Dr. Tamara Ferguson, Tina Nicholson, Mike Lilly, Amanda Matoushek, Michelle Taylor, Roy Pruet, Jan Czarnecki, Amanda Banks, Debjani Chakrabarti, D. Arachchi, Vanessa Godfrey, Kelli Sarver, Geoff Hunter, Bill Bennett, Shelia Sargent-Martin, Rodney Montague, Karen Grogan, Amy Atwell, Dr. Angela Lambert, John Snead, Dr. Ted Lewis, Darrel Malamisura; Faculty Senate Chair.

## **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Darrel Malamisura, Faculty Senate Chair at 3:01pm. This meeting was scheduled to invite the Deans of all schools to weigh in on the new proposed general studies policy.

Dr. Lewis was asked to speak first on the policy. He stated that the policy on core competencies has been changed from 4.0 to 5.0 in the Academic Objectives policy. 5.1.1 are the competencies for an Associate's degree. 5.1.2 are the competencies for the Bachelor's degree.

5.1.1 Associate's Degree. All students receiving an associate's degree shall be required to be competent in in the following areas:

- 5.1.1.1 Western civilization and history to 1600 and American history
- 5.1.1.2 The U.S. Constitution and American system of government
- 5.1.1.3 Political economy focused on free market economics
- 5.1.1.4 Written and oral communications
- 5.1.1.5 Mathematics
- 5.1.1.6 Ethics in the student's field of study
- 5.1.1.7 General Science

5.1.2 Bachelor's Degree. In addition to the competencies required in Section students receiving a bachelor's degree shall also be competent in the following areas:

- 5.1.2.1 Western history to 1600 and American history
- 5.1.2.2 The U.S. Constitution and American system of government
- 5.1.2.3 Political economy focused on free market economics
- 5.1.2.4 Written and oral communications
- 5.1.2.5 Critical and creative thinking
- 5.1.2.6 Physical wellness
- 5.1.2.7 Mathematics

- 5.1.2.8 Ethics in the student's field of study
- 5.1.2.9 General Science
- 5.1.2.10 Appreciation of music, art and/or theater

Dr. Lewis stated that the AS degrees require only 1 course in the humanities, social sciences and fine arts section. At the current time, we do not have enough faculty to teach 5.1.1.1, 5.1.1.2 and 5.1.1.3. He would like to procure a committee to develop a class that would include all three of these requirements into one. After this class is approved, then decide how the class would be taught, such as team teaching. The decision process for the course and faculty would lie with the School of Education and School of Business because those courses fall under those schools. 5.1.1.6 Ethics in the student's field would be embedded in their programmatic courses.

Dr. Lambert stated that for the social sciences requirement, the School of Nursing and Allied Health has chosen Psychology for obvious reasons, that some accrediting bodies require that it is Psychology. In the health related field you would want a psychology class instead of the Western Civ, American Government or Economics class. Due to the credit/hour requirements set forth for the SNAH programs, adding that additional course may involve removing a programmatic class that is needed for the degree. She asked Dr. Lewis if we would be re-writing our general studies and learning outcomes to match the new policy or would we be adding it to the current outcomes. He stated that we could incorporate to the current outcomes. Dr. Ferguson added that we would then have to change our assessment plan for the upcoming accreditation.

Jan Czarnecki commented that it would be very difficult to add these classes to the School of Engineering, especially for the AS degree. The Ethics is embedded, so that is taken care of.

Vanessa Godfrey asked Dr. Lewis if this would add 3 hours to the AS degrees. He stated that it would take the place of your social science course. Dr. Lambert said that for the SNAH programs it would indeed add 3 hours because the students would still be required to take psychology, unless another class was dropped from the curriculum.

Dr. Lewis stated that there would not be as much difficulty with the BS degree with the new academic objectives as there is for the AS degrees.

Dr. Lewis said that it would probably not go into effect until Spring 2022. It would take a year to develop the course and train the faculty to deliver. The survey course from 5.1.2.1, 5.1.2.2, and 5.1.2.3 would be the new addition. The faculty would embed an Ethics course into an already existing course, and they would choose one of the three options from 5.1.2.10. Darrel suggested that the survey course be an introduction to economics for those students in Business that are already required to take an economics class.

Mike Lilly stated that CRMJ currently has a three-hour ethics class in their program, but does not have an economics class requirement. Amanda Matoushek stated that CRMJ use the social sciences class for their requirements, so there may be a need to add 3 additional credit hours to satisfy the new survey class obligation.

Shelia Sargent-Martin asked that since the School of Education already requires Western Civ and Political Government, would they drop those classes and take the survey class or would they just add the Economics class. Dr. Lewis stated that they could pick up the survey course and have 3 additional credit hours for another course.

Dr. Lambert asked the question on how will the Curriculum Committee tackle all the changes that will have to be made to each school's curriculum requirements. Mike Lilly stated that he was sure the committee could come up with a solution to process all school's requirements at one time, so that it is not a drawn-out process.

Darrel stated that the biggest issue with the new policy was the process itself. He said that it seemed to him that the BOG took the comments from faculty and tweaked it somewhat. Then they put the policy back out for review during the holidays and only for a 10 day comment period. He was also told that the BOG did not have to notify the faculty of the revised policy. He stated that we still may need to develop a letter to send to the BOG letting them know our displeasure with the process. Amanda Matoushek stated that it actually was not put back out for comment during that 10 day period. They were also supposed to make all the comments received public along with BOG responses to each of those comments. At the time, none of that has been made public. Rodney Montague stated that they also changed the Honors College program requirements, and the college is not adequately prepared to meet. He has meetings coming up to discuss this issue. Dr. Lambert stated that she was told by the president that the additional requirements for the AS degrees would be taken out and when the policy was completed, the new requirement was still a part of the policy.

Darrel stated that we should require the BOG to send us answers to all the comments that were submitted. He will draft a letter requesting all comments be answered as quickly as possible. He will also invite the president to attend our next Faculty Senate meeting to answer any questions that we have. He will set up a meeting with the BOG, which are required to attend at least one of our meetings.

Darrel stated that we need a new BOG representative. Currently, John Snead is acting dean of the School of Business and cannot be a BOG representative. He would like everyone to email him a nomination for the position.

### **Adjournment:**

With no other issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.

DM/aa