APC Brief Notes – Approved 11/15/16
October 18, 2016, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., 101 South Hall

Chair: Karl Scholz
Members present: Heather Allen, Charles Fry, Daniel Kapust, Clark Landis, Shirin Malekpour, Louise Mares, Marisa Otegui, Laura McClure, Daniel Quint
Observers present: Kimbrin Cornelius, Greg Downey, Anne Gunther, Elaine Klein, James Montgomery, Susan Ellis Weismer, Sue Zaeske

1. Announcements and Informational Items. KS noted the November 1st APC meeting is cancelled. On November 15 the L&S APC will meet jointly with the CALS APC.


3. Old Business: Reaffirmation of L&S APC Prior Approval to create Undergraduate Certificate in East Central European Languages, Literature and Culture (proposed by Dept. of Slavic Languages, now to be offered in Dept. of German, Nordic, Slavic). This proposal was recently approved by the L&S APC, when Slavic was a separate department. The newly restructured department of German, Nordic, Slavic has reaffirmed approval of the new certificate. Members unanimously approved the motion to reaffirm the approval to create the Undergraduate Certificate in East Central European Languages, Literature, and Culture.

4. Action Items: a. Dept. of African Cultural Studies, Request to: (i.) Rename African Languages and Literature Subject Listing 104 to “African Cultural Studies” (ii.) Rename African Languages and Literature Academic Programs (BA/BS major, MA, PhD, under major code 018) to “African Cultural Studies” DQ reported the L&S Curriculum Committee approved the curricular changes in the proposal, and endorsed the name changes of the subject listing and programs. SZ reminded members that the name changes align with the recent department name change (recently changed to African Cultural Studies), and that the curricular changes are aligned with the department’s expanded focus beyond just literature and language. Members unanimously approve the request to rename the subject listing and program changes to African Cultural Studies.

b. Dept. of Economics, Request to Establish New L&S Center, “Juli Plant Grainger Institute for Economic Research” GD led discussion. The center is endowed, named in honor of Juli Plant Grainger, a beloved alumna. This center will be housed in the Economics department and will have a faculty director and funded staff support. The Center will provide funding for awards faculty and students, and to support enrichment activities that will enhance the intellectual climate of the department and university. Members approved the motion to request to establish the new L&S Center, Juli Plan Grainger Institute for Economics Research (DQ abstained).
c. School of Library and Information Studies, Request to Create New Capstone Certificate, “User Experience Design” Guest, Michele Besant, School of Library and Information Studies. GD led discussion. The proposed certificate is proposed as a non-pooled tuition model, and will require 10 credits (three 3-credit courses, and a 1-credit course associated with a final project). SLIS will manage and administer the program, but some courses will be taught by other departments (primarily Computer Science). As stewards of an accredited program, SLIS is a model for being attentive to learning outcomes and assessing those learning outcomes. In discussion, members remarked that the proposal was very well-organized and planned. Members discussed the online teaching aspects of the program, and MB noted the department has been teaching online for many years, and has regularized expectations about creating weekly units, media content, and creating opportunities for regular engagement both between instructor and students, as well as between students. Members unanimously approved the motion to create the new capstone certificate, “User Experience Design”

5. Academic Program Review

a. Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies – Undergraduate Programs. SZ led discussions. She reminded members of some recent history-- with the closure of Hebrew and Semitic Studies department, faculty in biblical classical studies are joined the Classics department, reformed and renamed to Classical and Ancient Near East Studies. In conversation, members spent some time discussing declining enrollments in the language courses, the challenges associated that, and the strategies the departments is considering. Members agreed the self-study and the external review was very thorough and well-done, and assessment plan was excellent as well. Members approved the motion to accept the review as complete (LM abstained).

b. Jewish Studies – Certificate
GD led discussion. KS noted that certificate reviews only require a self-study (external committees are not convened). Committee discussion was primarily focused on the assessment plan. Members noted the program’s assessment did not seem connected to whether students are learning, or how the program can be improved. Members acknowledged a unique challenge of Jewish Studies, which is most of their faculty have partial appointments. Members advised strong leadership will be required to ensure assessment and administration of the program is done collectively, rather than via one person. Given the relationship between Jewish Studies and CANES, members suggested CANES could be a model or resource. Members unanimously approved the motion to accept the program review as complete. They also asked the department continue to work on their assessment plan for the certificate. The council requested an updated certificate review when the undergraduate major is underway. (Which will have an added benefit of realigning the timing of the certificate and undergraduate program reviews in the future).

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm
Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, L&S Admin