The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

**Minutes**

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Attending: Amber Crow (student member); Helena Dettmer (Chair); Andrew Forbes; Kathryn Hall (staff); Meena Khandelwal; Cornelia Lang; Jerald Moon; Mary Noonan; Rachel Williams

Absent: Steve Duck; Ana Rodríguez-Rodríguez

1. The minutes from March 29, 2018 were approved with one correction.
2. UEPCC recommended that SPST: 2170 *Sport and Globalization* be approved for GE CLAS Core status in International and Global Issues.
3. Russell Ganim*,* Professor, Director of the Division of World Languages and DEO of the Department of French and Italian and the Department of German, recommended the closure of the Comparative Literature major (BA) and minor because of low undergraduate enrollment in these programs. Students who have declared either the major or minor before the closure will be allowed to complete the program of study, but the Division also will encourage students to explore the many other majors offered by the Division in language and literature. Individual courses under the CL acronym will continued to be offered, giving interested students a chance to study related topics. The Division, in the future, might propose a new major with some of the similar learning outcomes as to those of Comparative Literature but with more of a focus on global literacy and/or translation since current students seem drawn to these topics. After a brief discussion, UEPCC recommended closure of the major and minor in Comparative Literature. The proposal will next move to the Faculty Assembly for discussion. Closure of a major also requires the approval of the Office of the Provost and the Board of Regents; if approved, the program closure would occur mostly likely in Fall 2019.
4. Dr. Peter Hubbard, Senior Director, Academic Standards, Office of Academic Programs and Student Development, updated UEPCC on high school science standards, currently undergoing a change because of state mandates. In the future, high schools will begin following the guidelines called the [Next Generation Science Standards](https://www.nextgenscience.org/) (NGSS), with science courses focused on topical, interdisciplinary issues while applying elements from the more traditional science disciplines. For many years, CLAS required 3 years of high school science for admission to the College, including at least one year of biology and one year of either physics or chemistry. More recently, CLAS expanded this list of acceptable courses to include physical science and environmental science. Currently, several Iowa schools are teaching the Next Generation science curriculum, with Dubuque and Forest City among them; in the near future, Des Moines and Council Bluffs will join this national trend, with more school districts to follow. This will complicate assessment of high school science courses by the Regents institutions. Iowa State has thus recommended changing its admission requirement for HS natural science to read, “Three years, including at least two years of laboratory science courses which emphasize elements of biology, chemistry, or physics.”  After a short discussion, UEPCC members recommended that CLAS adopt similar language as Iowa State, though without the reference to “laboratory courses,” as it was noted that this would put at a disadvantage students at schools in Iowa and beyond that do not have resources to offer courses with a significant laboratory or field component. During its discussion, UEPCC also noted that AP courses in the natural sciences will continued to be offered in high schools; that an introduction to complex science topics will begin earlier in elementary schools following the NGSS standards; and that some schools may not have the resources to implement those standards which call for a more in depth application and integration of scientific knowledge and skills.
5. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Forbes   
Associate Professor, Department of Biology  
Secretary for UEPCC