The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum CommitteeMinutes

October 10, 2019

Attending: Brain Lai; Helena Dettmer; Andrew Forbes; Eric Gidal; Kathryn Hall (staff); Andrew Kitchen; Rebekah Kowal; Ana Rodríguez-Rodríguez; Jennifer Rogers; Shaun Vecera

Absent: Anita Jung

1. The UEPCC minutes from October 3 will be discussed on October 17.
2. Members reviewed the BA/BS guidelines from the previous meeting. The committee agreed that the guidelines capture current practices and would help those creating new majors awarded with the BA, BS, or both, and recommended their approval.
3. Helena Dettmer updated UEPCC members on the highlights from the DUS meeting held on October 9, summarizing a concept presented by Renee Cole, Professor, Chemistry, about adding undergraduate assistants in large lecture courses. The undergraduate assistants help to create community while providing support for students as well as for group activities completed during the lecture. Because of the classroom configuration and the number of students, it can be difficult in these locations to create engagement and to keep students on task. Renee Cole is hoping other instructors and departments might be interested in joining this initiative since, with support, it could be designed to include a large number of courses in the sciences or quantitative disciplines and could help close achievement gaps. Research has shown the strategy to be effective. Logistics, however, can become complicated since in order to participate students must be recruited, trained, and mentored. Helena Dettmer mentioned that a specific name for this student position to convey respect could also be helpful, with *Learning Fellows* suggested.
4. Dr. Jennifer Bertrand, Senior Associate Director, Academic Programs and Student Development, CLAS; and Stephanie Fountain, Assistant Director, International Internships and Education for Undergraduates, Tippie College of Business, updated UEPCC on the International Business Certificate. The certificate is unique since it is only one of several certificate programs that are administered by two colleges, with both Jennifer Bertrand and Stephanie Fountain codirecting the certificate. The certificate requires 29 semester hours, with core courses required in four main areas. One key feature of the certificate is that the World Language and/or Study Abroad area must align with the student’s choice of courses in the Area Studies requirement that focuses on culture. For example, if a student studies German or studies aboard in Germany, then the student would also complete related cultural courses from the Area Studies requirement, helping to integrate the student’s coursework and experiences and/or their world language. Enrollment in the certificate has been steady, with graduation rates at about 50 students a year. In any one year, around 160 students have declared the certificate. These healthy enrollment in part come from annual meetings with advisors and from an IB brochure reminding students about the certificate. The program encourages students to study aboard or further their language study while learning more about the related culture, with students broadening both skills and knowledge.
5. UEPCC returned to the discussion of recommended teaching incentives, suggesting new ideas to be added to the list from the previous meeting. Once the list has been completed, it will be shared with those who might find it useful, including DEOs, DUS, and others.
6. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena Dettmer  
Secretary for UEPCC, *pro tem*