**Academic Policy Council**

**Meeting January 27, 2017**

**Minutes**

**Members In Attendance:**

Eve Clark, Chair

Mary McCune

Jason Zenor

Sue Fettes

Rameen Mohammadi  
Pat Russo

Michelle Bishop

Jean Chambers

Meeting commenced at 3:06 pm

**I. Approval of Agenda**

# Agenda presented by E. Clark moved by S. Fettes and seconded by J. Zenor and was approved by affirmation.

**II. Approval of Minutes 12/9**

The minutes were discussed. It was moved by Russo and seconded by Fettes to approve the minutes with changes. The minutes were approved by affirmation.

**III. Information Science Major - Doug Lea**

Doug Lea told the Council these changes are nine years in the making. Changes are modeled on the Computer Science BA with an eye toward simplicity in structure. Differences appear in what can be guaranteed in the Core. The Department has a large number of students. Small core, then, for ISC. Electives: used to have a learning agreement and could pick variety of courses. Curriculum is structured in way that the students can’t graduate with “just garbage.”

Sue Fettes wondered why the five prefixes were not listed. Language as is is not well defined to a student. Lea disagreed. Pat Russo also wanted to know why the prefixes weren’t listed. Lea replied that the Department does not want to create future obstacles. Rameen Mohammadi agreed that it would be clearer for all involved to list the prefixes. He thinks it would be clearer to all involved. Lea agreed to put prefixes in parentheses after the elective language.

Eve Clark asked about why the name of the minor is not being changed to Information Science Minor. Discussion regarding the history of the minor’s name and attempts to change it. When it became clear that the minor name changes do not have to go to Albany, Lea agreed to the name change to match that of the major.

Sue Fettes brought up the issue regarding whether the Writing Plan has been amended and approved. It is still in the process of being approved.

Lea exited and discussion ensued.

Sue Fettes put forth a motion to approve the new Information Science major with the following changes: 1) update language to read “C. Electives: ISC and other courses offered by the Computer Science Department ((ISC, CSC, COG, HCI, BHI)) at the 200- level or above, under advisement”; and 2) the major will not be reported to the floor until the Writing Plan has been approved. Pat Russo seconded. Approved with 1 negative vote.

Motion to approve the minor with name change. Sue Fettes moved, Jason Zenor seconded. Approved.

**IV. Geology**

Eve Clark did not hear back from them but had not directed her communication to David Valentino. Eve will contact David Valentino.

**V. MLL proposals**

Jason Zenor asked for a side-by-side comparison of changes in all four proposals. Agreed that all proposals require a side-by-side comparison.

Confusion regarding fact that they are not proposing to raise the number of hours so where is the new requirement fitting? Rameen Mohammadi pointed out that as long as the student goes abroad it doesn’t matter what course is used for that experience.

Rameen addressed the question of funding, discussing GetGo grants and how to distribute funds among students. GetGo funds will be limited to $1500 per student. These majors each have a small number of students.

Mary McCune wondered what would happen if a student were unable to go abroad. Rameen Mohammadi said the requirement would be deviated.

Jean Chambers raised the issue of ambiguous language regarding the goals of the requirement and the types of experiences that would count toward the requirement.

Jason Zenor wondered why they do not take the original note and turn it into a requirement.

Michelle Bishop returned to the issue of financial support, asking if there is other support in addition to GetGo. Rameen Mohammadi pointed out that students can also get financial aid. Pat Russo wondered whether or not this requirement will attract or deter students.

Michelle Bishop pointed out that there is no language indicating that the student needs to study or work in a nation where people speak the language the student is studying.

Discussion of rationale and consensus emerged that the rationale for the requirement needed to be clearer. Jean Chambers requested some reasonable scenarios so that Council can understand how the Department anticipates this will play out.

Eve Clark will contact John Lalande and have him come to the next meeting to answer questions. She will also let him know that Council requires a side-by-side comparison. Other questions to be addressed include: How many are not studying abroad? What are those studying abroad doing? Is this meant to be immersion or study abroad? What do they mean by “working abroad”? How do they envision this working? If immersion, could the experience take place in an area inside the U.S.? Do they need language to indicate professional approval prior to working abroad? The LIT program already has internship requirement – do they need the note in this program? Since the majors already have a note, why not modify that note rather than placing new note elsewhere.

**V. Digital Humanities:** briefly discussed and raised questions. Council members will email questions they have regarding the proposal to the entire Council and consider the proposal at the next meeting.

Eve Clark will:

1. Contact Valentino regarding GEO
2. Follow up with RMI
3. Contact John Lalande

Sue Fettes will:  
1) Raise the issue regarding the procedure of Writing Plan and APC approvals with FAEB.

2) Follow up with issues pending still with BIO.

**VI. Meeting schedule.**

Meeting Schedule was approved with caveat that April 7th is HON Convocation and may possibly need to be rescheduled. Meetings will take place in 467 Mahar.

Approved.

Motion to adjourn at 4:34.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary McCune