



Educational Policies Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday, 14 November 2022

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Leadership present: Chair Edward Dauterich; Secretaries Therese E. Tillett, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Kristi M. Kamis, Christa N. Ord

Administrators present: Associate Provost Manfred van Dulmen; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno

Administrators not present: Versie Johnson-Mallard

Faculty present: Professor Karen Gracy; Associate Professors Brian R. Barber, Vanessa J. Earp, Doug Ellison, Michael J. Ensley, Michael R. Fisch, Eric S. Kildow, Dandan Liu, Denise M. McEnroe-Petitte, Mitchell J. McKenney, Abe G. Osbourne, Helen Piontkivska, Christopher Rowan, Blake Stringer, Jonathan F. Swoboda; Assistant Professors Bethany G. Lanese, Maggie Stedman-Smith; Senior Lecturers Tracy A. Laux, Jennifer R. Metheney; Associate Lecturer Shelley K. Marshall; Lecturer Kristy Jacobson

Faculty not present: Associate Professors Geoffrey Steinberg, Brett D. Tippey; Assistant Professor Tina Patel

Students present: Jeremy Foust, Seth T. Young

Guests: Susan Augustine, Andrew Barnes, Christina Bloebaum, Kelly Cichy, Frank Congin, Alicia Crowe, Chris Dorsten, Susan Emens, Stephanie Fussell, Yvonne George, James Hannon, Julie Mazzei, Hedi Nasheri, Felix Offodile, Sandra Pech, Hassan Peyravi, Jennifer Roche, Matthew Rollyson, Hollie Simpson, Sarah Smiley, Alison Smith, Chair Edward Dauterich called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Monday, 14 November 2022, via Microsoft Teams.

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Meeting on 17 October 2022

Associate Professor Piontkivska made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded.

Without questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

II. Presentation

A. Re-Envisioning the Kent Core Steering Committee

Alison Smith and Manfred van Dulmen, co-chairs

[VIEW THE PRESENTATION](#)

Associate Provost van Dulmen stated that a steering committee with a number of faculty members and former provost of Kent State, Paul Gaston, was created this past spring. This semester began the formation of three subcommittees focused on distinctiveness, general educational design and budgetary reform. Listen tours also began with academic units. A topic of focus is the importance in better understanding what the community is looking for, educating the community on what is possible, what have other successful universities done and what kind of experiences should students have. The focus in year one is listening and a foundation of a process going forward focusing on design, distinctiveness and budget. This spring semester, the listening tour will extend to student groups and organizations, forums for staff and engage advisors and advising deans. Online discussion panels will also be launched for the subcommittees. This will be an opportunity for students, faculty and staff who cannot commit to a subcommittee, but would like to be a part of the process. The steering committee's working mission statement focuses on the experiences students should have. In the future, focusing on the courses. Questions asked are: "What experiences should students have?" "What should students learn from the Kent Core?" "What should students learn in the Kent Core?" Different aspects the steering committee believe should be included are interdisciplinary, supports developing intellectual flexibility and lifelong attitude of discovery and creative expression. This prepares students for the workforce, but also for lifelong learning. It is important that there is integration with the core and the major, that it is equitable, humanitarian and ethical decision-making and civic responsibility that is aligned with Kent State. Questions to be answered are: How to redesign the Kent Core? How is it organized? What is the structure of the Kent Core? Other universities have added pathways that are interdisciplinary. How to make the Kent Core distinctive? Part of that may be through the design. How do students get an experience from the Kent Core that is different from other universities? Linking those answers to future outcomes. Another focus is budgetary reform asking how the core is funded. Offering courses in the Kent Core is driven by the RCM model. The committee will be reviewing that model and how to improve it.

An EPC member asked if the budgetary subcommittee is tasked with making recommendations of changes to the RCM.

Senior Associate Provost said the subcommittee will be tasked at reviewing how the Kent Core is handled under RCM.

An EPC member asked if the subcommittees would be making recommendations for specific courses.

Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen and Dean Smith replied, no. They will not be reviewing individual courses in relation to the Kent Core.

Dean Smith explained that listening tours started to gauge what the faculty in the colleges and schools are thinking about the way the Kent Core operates now and the way it may be improved.

Teams from the steering committee and subcommittees meeting with all academic units. There have been 35 listening tours completed. They are expected to be finished in January. Average faculty attendance for each listening tour was 11. Students, advisors and alumni will be next on the listening tours. Future focus areas are diversity requirement, experiential learning requirement, writing requirement, integrative and interdisciplinary experiences, competency and skill-based learning, GenEd and CCP/Transfer and general education and associate degrees. The anticipated timeline for implementation will be fall 2025 for the first cohort and full implementation fall 2028.

Therese asked what is meant by a pilot.

Dean Smith explained that there will be multiple pilots at different levels. When the time comes to run the pilots, they will look for volunteer faculty and create a pilot process.

III. Subcommittee Reports

A. Transfer Credit Committee

Edward Dauterich and Joanna Liedel, co-chairs

[VIEW THE REPORT](#)

Joanna stated that the credit transfer office brought an issue with CLEP to the subcommittee. There are state minimum scores for what credit will be offered. There is a discrepancy between ACE and state minimum. ACE says that Kent State should give credit at a minimum of a 50 score and the state minimum is typically above that. The question was what to do if a student receives a score of 52 and the state minimum is above that number. The committee discussed that general elective credit could be awarded for students who meet the ACE minimum, but are below the state minimum. The subcommittee will also be putting together some guidelines and materials to help faculty new to evaluating transfer credit. It will be easily accessible for faculty and others to access.

B. Undergraduate Policies Council

Charity Miller and E. Sue Wamsley, co-chairs

[VIEW THE REPORT](#)

Sue said that the council is looking at two policies—academic probation and dismissal, appeal and reinstatement. The council is in the process of LEAN process review. The council is working with Kim Rivers in IT to review the dismissal, appeal and reinstatement process. The process helps to understand what the student knows, what they do not know and how to make it more efficient and student-friendly process. There is a subgroup currently reviewing the policy language to make it more student-friendly and ensure that the appeal process is understandable, equitable and accessible. The preliminary discussions have shown that there is a disconnect between the students being dismissed by the university, but having to appeal through the college. During spring, the council worked on recommendations for automatically applying for graduation. There is a recommendation to make applying for graduation automated. However, there are staffing concerns. Options will continue to be reviewed with caution. Staffing issues are with key offices.

IV. Policy Proposals Review

A. Action Items

Office of Curriculum Services

1. Course Schedule Type: Establish a new course schedule type – Combined Lecture/Studio (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Therese explained that course schedule types are the designation given to each course (i.e., lecture, lab, studio, thesis, internship). There is a policy attached to that for contact to credit hours. State guidelines are followed for how many contact to credit hours are required for each schedule type. Currently, there is a combined lecture/lab. It has a lecture component and lab component. They may be scheduled differently. The lecture may be Monday, Wednesday, Friday and the lab may be Tuesday. If a course and lab are taught simultaneously, then it uses the combined lecture/lab designation. Over the past year, some departments have asked for something similar, but with studio. Some art and design courses may provide lecture and studio simultaneously. To make the student's schedule easy to understand the type of course, the departments/schools have asked that a combined lecture/studio designation be created with the minimum credit to contact hours. This designation will be listed in the guidelines and have a code attached to specific courses.

Senior Lecturer Laux made a motion to approve, and Associate Lecturer Marshall seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

V. Structure Proposals Review

A. Action Items

Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship

1. Department of Management and Information Systems: Divide the department into a new Department of Management and a new Department of Information Systems and Business Analytics (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Dean Spake explained that the divide between departments was due to the growth and to be consistent with other business schools in Ohio and across the nation related to naming conventions for departments that house these disciplines. With respect to growth, the management and information systems department (MIS) is the largest in the college. Both from a faculty standpoint and a number of degree programs. The department houses 46% of all undergraduate majors and 38% of all undergraduate minors in the college. The college reviewed the department names and programs from other public Ohio universities. Some business schools in Ohio do have a management and information systems department, but they also have a separate department of management. Most schools with a department named "management and information systems" focus is solely on information systems. The current MIS department is a combination of both management and information systems disciplines. This combination is not represented at any other public Ohio university. The current MIS houses a growing business analytics discipline not reflected in the department name. The college is proposing to have the same naming convention as Miami University and University of Cincinnati with combining information systems and business analytics in one department name and a separate department of management. The department and college curriculum committees, FAC and CAC have approved the proposed restructuring and renaming. These departments would better reflect the disciplines

in the college, better align with peer, aspirant and other Ohio business colleges in naming and better serve students by clearly identifying the department of their major. No curricular changes are being made except to move existing programs and courses to one of the two new departments and to modify prefixes of graduate courses to match the prefix at the undergraduate level to improve clarity. All of the academic deans were contacted, and letters of support attached to the proposal.

Senior Lecturer Laux made a motion to approve, and Associate Lecturer Marshall seconded.

An EPC member asked if there has been any discussion regarding needing two faculty handbooks.

Dean Spake stated that the department has already separated the handbook and there are two current handbooks in anticipation of this move.

With no further questions or comments, the items passed unanimously.

College of Arts and Sciences

2. Center for Aquatic Ecology, Center for International and Comparative Programs, Center for Materials Informatics, Institute for the Study and Prevention of Violence, Matthew Ferrini Institute for the Study of Human Origins: Inactivate three centers and two institutes in the college (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Dean Warren stated that these centers and institutes have not been active in a practical manner for some time. The college has communicated with all units where faculty were in the centers at one time and are no longer. The Center for Aquatic Ecology was replaced by the Center for Ecology and Natural Resource Sustainability. The Center for International and Comparative Programs became the Center for Comparative and Integrative Programs and now is the School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities. The Center for Materials Informatics has been inactivated for a long time. The Institute for Study and Prevention of Violence was moved to Public Health when the faculty went there, and the faculty left the university. Matthew Ferrini Institute for the Study of Human Origins was never able to take off.

Associate Professor Piontkivska motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Ensley seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

VI. Program Proposals Review

A. Action Items

College of Applied and Technical Studies

1. Early Childhood Education Technology – A.A.S.: Revise major name to Early Years Education and Care; revise program description, course requirements and roadmap (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Professor Pech stated that the bachelor's program made some adjustments to their content in their courses due to the changes of the licensure at the state level. Licensure changed from a pre-k-3 to a pre-k-5. The changes made at the bachelor's level impacted the associate's

level. The learning outcomes needed modified to continue to align with the 2+2 program. Technology used to be required to be in the program name, but is no longer required. Technology was dropped from the name. Since the program is focused on young children, the program was renamed to Early Years Education and Care. Data sheets were updated realigned some of the changes to continue alignment with the bachelor's degree and adding three new, one-credit field courses. In order for state accreditation, field experiences have to be documented. In the past, the field hours were woven into the content courses. The bachelor's degree added one-credit hour field courses and the associate's degree followed with one-credit hour field courses to align and meet state requirements.

Associate Professor Tu added that the introduction class used to be a two-credit class and was changed to a one-credit hour course to align with the bachelor's degree.

Associate Lecturer Marshall motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Piontkivska seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

2. Respiratory Therapy Technology – A.A.S.: Revise major name to Respiratory Therapy; revise learning outcomes (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Academic Program Director, Yvonne George, explained that the rationale for the proposal is that the word “technology” brings to mind a trade and respiratory therapy is a profession. Kent State is one of four universities in Ohio that still have “technology” in the program name. The learning objectives were also updated.

Associate Lecturer Marshall motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Ensley seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Arts and Sciences—School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities

3. International Relations – B.A.: Revise major name to International Studies, revise learning outcomes, program description, course requirements and roadmap (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Professor Barnes said that the program is currently called International Relations and will be changed to International Studies. It has the same description and career paths for students. After reviewing 40 programs from around the country, name and content stood out. Of the 40 schools, approximately 20% called their program International Relations. Others called it International Studies, International Affairs or Global Studies. In terms of content, there are a number of ways to structure a program like this. A common way is a core and electives that are connected by the learning objectives. The school chose three core courses and added a capstone course. The capstone requires students to pull from their elective courses and decide what is next. The learning outcomes were also reviewed. The changes are more question and problem-driven, multi-disciplinary and what students can do.

Associate Professor Ensley motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Piontkivska seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Communication and Information—School of Information

4. User Experience Design – M.S.: Revise major name to User Experience; revise accreditation, learning outcomes and program description (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Professor Gracy stated that the school would like to drop the word “design” from the title. The scope of user experience has changed over the years. The scope has broadened. The school wants students to know that design is not the primary or major component of the program, but a part of the program. The program is listed as being accredited by NASAD, but it is not. That information will be removed.

Associate Professor Kildow motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Piontkivska seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

School of Lifespan Development and Education Sciences

5. Educational Psychology – M.A.: Revise major name to Learning Science; revise program description and course requirements (*fall 2023*)

6. Educational Psychology – Ph.D.: Revise major name to Learning Science; revise program description, admission requirements and course requirements (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Professor Roche stated that the school would like to change the name to Learning Science. The rationale is because of the different focus on research. The school wants to differentiate the M.Ed. program from the M.A. and Ph.D. programs which are more research-based. This name change clarifies that these programs are research-intensive and will focus on psychological construct. A couple courses have been added to allow students to have more choice. Curriculum was cleaned up to show that is research-based.

Associate Lecturer Marshall motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Ensley seconded the motion.

Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen asked to follow-up again with Psychology to obtain a letter of support.

With no further questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

7. Human Development and Family Studies – B.S.: Revise major name to Human Development and Family Science; revise learning outcomes and program description (*fall 2023*)

8. Human Development and Family Studies – M.A.: Revise major name to Human Development and Family Science; revise learning outcomes and program description (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Professor Cichy stated that the name change is to expand the visibility of the program to prospective students and their families. Family science is more readily by prospective employers. This proposed change also aligns with what is happening with peer and aspirant programs in the discipline. It reflects more of research-oriented mission of the program. The school did consult with the Arts and Sciences, Psychological Sciences and Sociology and have received approval from all. Learning outcomes and program description have been updated.

Associate Professor McEnroe-Petitte motioned to approve, and Associate Lecturer Marshall seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

B. Discussion Items

College of Aeronautics and Engineering

1. Aeronautical Studies - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date
2. Air Traffic and Airspace Management - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date
3. Aviation Management - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date
4. Professional Pilot - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date
5. Unmanned Aircraft Systems Flight Operations - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Assistant Professor Fussell explained that the college would like to submit initial inquiries for the five majors currently listed as concentrations under the Aeronautics – B.S. Once the concentrations are pulled into their own majors, they will be more visible, will be able to be marketed and then they will be ranked. The change for the ATC program will still maintain the ability to meet FAA training and meet at the facilities. This also provides the space to look into changing the concentration to include Airspace Management, Unmanned Technologies and Air Mobility Technologies. No additional resources will be needed.

Chair Dauterich asked if there are enough students in each concentration for it to make sense to make all of these programs.

Assistant Professor Fussell said, yes. One of the issues occurring was there were too many students under a small amount of advisors and more advisors will need to be hired to break the students up accordingly.

6. Criminology and Justice Studies - B.A.: Inactivate all concentrations; revise delivery mode to mostly online (and continuing in person); revise program description, course requirements, graduation requirements and roadmap (*fall 2023*)
7. Sociology - B.A.: Inactivate all concentrations; revise delivery mode to mostly online (and continuing in person); revise program description, course requirements and roadmap (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Professor Taylor said that there are a lot of concentrations in both Criminology and Justice Studies and Sociology. It was becoming confusing for students. The majority of students in both majors were picking the general concentration. The concentration requirement was coming a barrier. The program description, course requirements and roadmaps were cleaned up. This will also allow students to design their own program.

Chair Dauterich asked about the programs going mostly online.

Professor Taylor explained that over time, more courses have been offered online. Students are still wanting online courses. This change is reflecting what has been in practice. In person are still offered.

School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities

8. Cybercriminology - B.S.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Dean Warren said that the proposal is among the Department of Sociology and Criminology, Department of Computer Sciences, the College of Arts Sciences and Information Technology program in the College of Applied and Technical Studies. Cybercriminology was coined by a criminologist in 2007 as a multi-disciplinary field of inquiry. It is relatively new, but growing area. Kent State would be the first university in NEO to have a true cybercriminology program. It prepares students to understand, investigate, process and prevent cybercrimes. Members from the field have stated the need for more people in the field.

Associate Lecturer Marshall added that the program requirements will be collected almost all from existing courses.

9. Gender and Sexuality Studies – B.A.: Initial inquiry to establish a new major; full proposal will come to EPC for a vote at a later date

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

School Director, Julie Mazzei, explained that this major has been considered for some time. A committee reviewed what the university already offers and what is needed to offer this program. Core classes and electives have been collected. Existing minors and other programs speak to this program so well. Kent State stands above what other universities and regional colleges can offer.

Therese asked if all elective courses are regularly offered.

Julie said yes and that they have letters of support.

Therese suggested showing what future offerings will be for students.

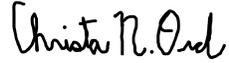
College of Public Health

10. Public Health – Ph.D.: Suspend admission temporarily to Health Policy and Management concentration (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Interim Associate Dean Zullo stated that they have chosen to suspend the HPM concentration to help move students along who are at the point of dissertation or the 10-year mark. The students are part-time, working individuals and had a hard time collecting data due to the nature of their work and especially during covid. The curriculum will be revised, and they need more time to review and decide on courses.

Respectfully submitted,



Christa N. Ord

Operations and Special Projects Coordinator, Curriculum Services

Office of the Provost