



Meeting Minutes  
Monday, 19 September 2022  
[View the Meeting](#)

**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, Brett D. Tippey; Assistant Professors Bethany G. Lanese, Maggie Stedman-Smith, Tina Patel; Senior Lecturer Tracy A. Laux; Lecturer Kristy Jacobsen; Associate Lecturer Shelley K. Marshall

**Faculty not present:** Associate Professors Eric S. Kildow, Geoffrey Steinberg; Senior Lecturer Jennifer R. Metheney

**Students present:** Jeremy Foust, Seth T. Young

**Guests:** Susan Augustine, J.R. Campbell, Neil Cooper, Susan Emens, Landon Hancock, James Hannon, Kristy Jacobson, Jennifer Marcinkiewicz, Liz Piatt, Eboni Pringle, Matthew Rollyson, Peggy Shaddock, Hollie Simpson, Sarah Smiley, Alison Smith, Jillian Sokso, Kathleen Spicer, Linnea Stafford, Leann Starlin, Deirdre Warren, Cathy Zingrone

---

Chair Edward Dauterich called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Monday, 17 October 2022, via Microsoft Teams.

## **I. Approval of Minutes**

### **A. Meeting on 19 September 2022**

Associate Professor Fisch motioned to approve, and Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen seconded.

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

## II. Presentation

### A. Establish a standing subcommittee to review and approve new micro-credentials

*Peggy Shadduck, vice president for regional campuses and dean of College of Applied and Technical Studies*

#### [VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Vice President Shadduck stated that the microcredentials are opportunities to bring together credit learning experiences. These are courses that are offered and organized as a set that is associated with a particular focus area of skill or knowledge. This also allows for the student to be recognized when they successfully complete the microcredential. The idea is to propose that there is a standing EPC subcommittee that would review proposals for the sets of credit learning experiences and be labeled as a microcredential. This would not be for new courses. New courses would go through the regular curricular approval process. This would be the packaging of existing courses into a set that would make sense for learners. A proposal form would be filled out, sent and reviewed by the microcredential EPC subcommittee.

An EPC member asked if the draft proposal form that had been previously presented would still be used and if CIM would be used for the proposals.

Vice President Shadduck said that draft form is ready for the subcommittee to review and decide if it will go forward for use. The process should be quickly adaptable and should not slow anything down.

An EPC member asked if members of this subcommittee represent their college on the full EPC.

Chair Dauterich said from his understanding, no.

EPC members asked when they would be able to start submitting proposals.

Chair Dauterich stated that as soon as members are assembled, work could commence.

Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen added EPC Exec could nominate and call for members. The subcommittee could get started in a couple of weeks.

### B. Establish an ad hoc subcommittee to develop a post-implementation review of new programs

*Therese Tillett, associate vice president for curriculum planning and administration*

#### [VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Therese stated that this will not be a standing committee and will have a deadline. Outside of the normal seven-year review that the office of assessment, accreditation and learning does, there is no consistent process to evaluate the health of a new program including major, minor or certificate. This would be for an additional review of new programs. An ad hoc committee would come together to decide on a timeline, process, tools for assessment and who should be part of the review committee. The ad hoc committee would then bring their recommendations back to EPC. An inquiry will be sent out seeking membership. Ad hoc members do not have to be a member of EPC.

### III. Program Proposals Review

#### A. Action Items

##### 1. College of Arts and Sciences—School of Peace and Conflict Studies

Peace and Conflict Studies – M.A.: Establish major in-person on Kent Campus with two concentrations: Applied Conflict Transformation; and Peace and Conflict and Development (*fall 2023 pending final approvals*)

#### [VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

School Director, Neil Cooper, said that development of the program emerged from longstanding discussions within the school about the need for a new MA in peace and conflict studies (SPCS). Degrees in peace and conflict studies recruit better at the master's level than at the undergraduate level. Faculty has grown 4.5 FTE in the past few years. This means that the school can comfortably staff the program. Additionally, the university is committed to upgrading and expanding the SPCS office space. This will better accommodate students. A program of this kind is timely as issues of war, conflict and structural violence have risen to the top of the political agenda. According to the global peace index, the measure of violent demonstrations has risen 50% since 2008. In 2020, the state-based arm conflicts were the highest recorded since World War II. Political violence and polarization are seen in the U.S. while the war in Ukraine has given renewed concerns about nuclear war. These kinds of trends speak to the likelihood of growing student interest in the field. The original plan was to run two separate programs, but the university advice was to merge them into one overarching program with two concentrations. Furthermore, advice was taken from three external advisors by adding in a new elective in peace psychology. One key goal is to offer a practice-oriented program. A program that can provide training for people who want to enter the field. Reviews of the field have highlighted the need for practice-oriented programs. A review of competitive programs and labor market data showed an increase in job availability with requirements in what the program would be teaching. The praxis courses will train in the needed skills. The concentrations are designed to reflect different aspects of the field and appeal to different cohorts of students. The center for conflict management will be having discussions with the University of Rwanda on how to deepen collaboration across a range of areas. After making the concentrations distinct, a balance was created to provide common foundations in the field within the courses. Only two other programs were found in Ohio that could compare—Ohio University and University of Toledo. The focus of these programs are different. The school believes their program will be much more comprehensive and reflective.

An EPC member asked if this would go through the college advisory committee.

Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen said that body would only look at curricular actions that would go through the graduate college.

Therese added that with all graduate proposals, the graduate dean signs off.

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

Without any further questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

## **2. College of the Arts—School of Art**

Art Education – B.A.: Revise degree, from a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) to a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

School Director, Jillian Sokso, stated that the change came from the accrediting body. The accrediting body let the school know they already had a B.F.A. even though it was listed as a B.A. There was conversation at the division level with art education about what it would mean to make the changes. There are no curriculum changes. All the requirements are already met through the curriculum that exists. The proposal is for the name change. The program will also be moving from 121 credits to 120 credits with the electives moving from three credits to 1-3 credits. There is no faculty or load impact. Preapproval has been given from the accrediting body.

An EPC member asked what makes a program a B.F.A. compared to a B.A.

Jillian explained that the distinction is a B.A. is a liberal arts degree with more theories and a B.F.A. is more practice-based. It also has to do with the number of credits. The B.F.A. is a larger program than the B.A.

Associate Lecturer Marshall moved to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded.

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

## **B. Discussion Items**

### **1. College of Applied and Technical Studies**

Entrepreneurship – Undergraduate Certificate: Offer program onsite at Trumbull Correctional Institution in Leavittsburg, Ohio (*fall 2023*)

2. Technical and Applied Studies – B.T.A.S.: Offer program onsite at Trumbull Correctional Institution in Leavittsburg, Ohio (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Assistant Professor Robison stated that the two items are existing programs and the proposal requests to offer these programs at Trumbull Correctional Institution. The proposals have gone through multiple entities and have been approved and supported. The college has pre-chosen some specializations since there is no internet access at the prison right now. These are driven by their interest and employability with a felony.

## **IV. Course Proposals Review**

### **A. Action Item – University Requirements Curriculum Committee (*fall 2023*)**

#### **1. New Student Orientation**

UC 10097 Destination Kent State: First Year Experience to: UC 10001 Flashes 101

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Dean Pringle said that the first-year experience course was last revised in 2009. In 2017, President Warren charged a small group of faculty, staff and students to explore opportunities to enhance sense of belonging across our system. This charge was based on survey responses to the climate survey that was administered in 2016. The data is a little old, however, the findings have

also come up in recent surveys. The climate survey data identified undergraduate students who considered leaving Kent State and usually did so within the first year. The first reason was lack of sense of belonging, second reason was academic concerns and the third was cost concerns. The groups identified in the climate survey who were most at-risk or reported this most often were Black, Hispanic, multi-racial, students with one or multiple disabilities, students who face financial challenges and first-generation students. The committee worked with students, faculty and staff to identify opportunities to address the data. Students asked for the revision of the FYE course. The new curriculum was designed to foster a university sense of belonging, promote engagement in the curricular and co-curricular life of the university, articulate what students can expect from and how they can contribute to the Kent State community and assist students in clarifying their purpose. This will be accomplished by the five learning outcomes highlighted in the proposal. The learning outcomes were designed to facilitate group learning. Goals will also be accomplished by an enhanced instructor selection and development process.

Therese asked if the proposal should be changed to S/U graded as it currently says letter graded.

Dean Pringle said yes it should be S/U graded.

Therese will make the change on the proposal. She added that a policy will need to be changed which Dean Pringle is working on. It will come forward to EPC. The type of student who gets waived from this requirement will be revised in the policy.

Chair Dauterich asked what specifically would change.

Dean Pringle stated that the data from transfer students do not have a strong mechanism to develop community. When the course was revised in 2009, it was most appropriate for first-year students. This course will develop community.

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

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

With no further comments, questions or concerns, Chair Dauterich concluded the meeting at 4:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christa N. Ord  
Operations and Special Projects Coordinator, Curriculum Services  
Office of the Provost