



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, President
RE: President's Response to Senate Actions
DATE: March 1, 2023

Following is my response to the actions of the Faculty Senate as represented in the minutes of the meeting on January 20, 2023, which were approved electronically on January 27, 2023. All program approvals are made contingent upon the department's commitment to staff the changes out of existing internal funds. Note that Section 3.6.2 of the Board of Regents Policy Manual states, inter alia: "The termination of educational programs, degrees, or majors shall be submitted to the Chancellor for review and recommendation for action by the Board of Regents." So, all program, degree, and major terminations (as well as additions) need to be approved by the Board. Our requests should include the rationale and the plan for addressing the needs of existing students.

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee (Kim Green, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology
 - a) ANTH 2001 – Introduction to Archaeology
Request: Revise

It is proposed to include Introduction to Archaeology as a choice to count in Core Area E. The course already exists. Adding a course to the core requires Board of Regents approval, but precedent exists for this course because Introduction to Archaeology already counts in Core Area E at many USG institutions. Each institution has to make the request for its own curriculum. The course aligns with Area E Learning Outcomes (E4, Social Sciences), but does not topically overlap with any course listed in this Area at UWG which will provide students with an added choice and flexibility to meet this core requirement.

Item approved with 48 in favor, zero opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

2) Department of Art, History, and Philosophy

a) Africana Studies Minor

Request: Revise

This minor is jointly housed in the English and History departments. The revision changes from the current requirement which stipulates that 2 courses must come from the Humanities and 2 courses from the Social Sciences to the revised requirement that students take 4 electives (or 12 credit hours) related to race, Africa, the Caribbean, the African Diaspora, and/or African America chosen from at least 2 different disciplines. The revision increases flexibility for completing the minor, allows for more courses to be included that satisfy the minor, and overcomes complications created by the reorganization of colleges.

Item approved with 46 in favor, zero opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

b) Art, Art Education B.F.A.

Request: Revise

This revision is proposed to change courses and reduce the total hours for the program. There will be a requirement of 15 credit hours in 3000/4000 level studio art electives. Three education courses (EDUC 2110 and 2130 and CEPD 4101) will be eliminated from the curriculum. For accrediting Art Education teacher certification programs, the state of Georgia defers to the art accrediting body (NASAD, National Association of Schools of Art and Design). These revisions meet NASAD standards. Also, this proposed revision is reducing the total credit hours from 132 to 126. The BOR has mandated that all teacher certification programs be at no more than 129 total credits. The 126 credit hours for the program meets the NASAD standards and aligns the program with all current UWG BFA Art concentrations. The students who are in the program as it presently exists will still be able to complete their program because no courses are being cancelled.

Dr. Jason Swift: Since this is a B.F.A. with a concentration in Art Education, the only education course that the professional standards commission requires is the special education course, SPED 3715. Since this is not a B.S. degree, there is flexibility in Georgia higher education; Georgia defers to NASAD. Making this change puts UWG in better alignment with applicable standards.

Item voted on as part of a block with c), below.

c) Art, Art Education B.F.A.

Request: Revise

This proposal creates a track for community arts within the Art Education BFA. This track serves students who want to teach art in settings other than public schools (such as community centers or museums) and do not want to seek Georgia P-12 teaching certification. There are only two other undergraduate programs like this on the East Coast. This program will utilize existing courses.

Items b) and c) were taken as a block and approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

3) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts

a) MUSC 3860 – Advanced Conducting

Request: Add

This proposal adds a second conducting course to the curriculum. This change is consistent with other programs in the state. This is a two-hour course. MUSC 3850 is a prerequisite. This new course will not add credit hours to the program because there are other changes for the program that are working their way through approvals. Similar to the Art proposals above, the Music program revisions are in line with the standards of their accrediting body (National Association for Schools of Music). The state of Georgia defers to those standards for music programs.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

4) Department of Natural Sciences

a) BIOL 4130 – Climate Change Biology

Request: Add

This proposal adds a new course that examines the impacts of climate change on living organisms, biological communities, and ecosystems. It has been offered as a special topics course for three years and demand warrants setting it up as its own course. It will be cross-listed as BIOL 5130.

Item approved with 46 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

B) School of Communications, Film, and Media

1) COMM 1100 – Human Communication

Request: Add

This proposal will create a UWG version of this Human Communication course. Currently the only option for UWG students to take this course is the eCore version which does fulfill the core Area B1 requirement. Multiple other USG institutions have their own version of this course. Having a UWG version would eliminate confusion, provide students with a seamless learning environment, and provide a communications course that is more relevant to some majors and career paths, since our current B1 offerings focus exclusively on public speaking. This proposed course does include public speaking but also interpersonal and group communication, listening and conflict management.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

Committee II: Graduate Programs Committee (Patrick Hadley, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of English, Film, Languages, and Performing Arts
 - a) Music Education Educator Certification Program
Request: Deactivate

This program was designed for people with music degrees, but who are not trained in education. It averaged one student per year for the last six years and no students are currently enrolled. All courses are part of the certificate program with courses in the evenings. These courses have been moved back to daytime blocks to accommodate the larger population of traditional students in music education programs. Music faculty voted in August to approve this deactivation.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

- B) College of Education
 - 2) Department of Educational Technology and Foundations
 - a) School Library Media Certificate in Instructional Technology, Media & Design
Request: Modify

The current admission standards for the SLM Certificate require a student who does not hold a Georgia professional certificate to pursue the SLM certificate program, while concurrently obtaining initial professional certification by completing four separate prerequisite courses, for a total of 33 credit hours combined. However, after the recently-approved revision of the SLM M.Ed. from a 36-hour program to a 30-hour program, it is more efficient for a student without initial professional certification to pursue the M.Ed. program. The program thus proposes removing the option to take the four prerequisite courses for initial certification and requiring applicants for the SLM certificate to hold a Georgia professional certificate in any field as a requirement for admission.

Item approved unanimously.

I accept this motion.

- 3) Department of Literacy and Special Education
 - a) READ 6705 – Comprehensive Final Exam for M.Ed. in Reading Instruction
Request: Add

Currently, Education faculty are identified by the Registrar of potential graduates and then faculty reach out to the students listed to provide instructions with how to prepare and register for the exam. Results are then conveyed to students by the faculty. This zero-credit course streamlines this examination process and prompts students to register for the exam.

Item approved with 44 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- b) Special Education, Ed.S.
Request: Modify

Change to catalog description and requirements. Currently, students who do not have the Master's degree in Special Education must complete additional courses. This modification adds the option for students to qualify for entrance to the Ed.S. with proof of a minimum of 3 years as a special educator or school experience as a speech language pathologist. In response to the growing number of students with speech language and school-based experience, this option will assist potential applicants. Feedback from students who have completed the courses suggests that course objectives add little value in lieu of their professional experiences. The option to take the courses is still allowed, but this provides an alternate option. An additional modification to current admissions criteria is also provided: currently, students need a GPA of 3.20 or higher, but now the requirement will be 3.00 or higher (for last graduate degree earned). This better aligns with peer institutions.

Item approved with 45 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- C) University College
 - 1) Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service
 - a) Criminology, M.A.
Request: Modify

These modifications concern the crime and social justice track and criminal justice track. Modifications include (1) requirement to complete CRIM 6233-Ethics in Criminal Justice as a core course in both tracks, and (2) requirement for completion of CRIM 6284 – Graduate Capstone course to exit the program under the criminal justice track. The capstone course replaces the comprehensive exam.

Item approved with 46 in favor, zero opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- D) Graduate Catalog 2023 – 2024
 - 1) Academic Standing (Figure 1)
Request: Modify

Updated language clarifies that academic suspension only applies to students failing graduate course (not any failing grades listed on their undergraduate transcript), and adds a provision that allows a student who has been academically dismissed to request readmission three full terms after dismissal. Previously, they could apply to a different program, but there was no provision where they could be reinstated and readmitted from the program from which they were dismissed. Readmitted students in this case are then required to retake all course that led to dismissal.

Item approved with 47 in favor, zero opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

Committee IX: Rules Committee (Jamie Brandenburg, Chair)

Action Items:

A) UWG Academic Policies and Procedures

- 1) Remove duplication of policies and associated procedures in PolicyStat
 - a) Promotion, Tenure, and Faculty Evaluations Decommissions in PolicyStat
 - i. Recurring Faculty Evaluations (#2004)
 - ii. Promotion (#2002)
 - iii. Tenure (#2003)

Request: Modify

Policies are currently duplicated in too many places online: this modification deletes duplication of policies and any associated procedures in PolicyStat.

Item approved with 46 in favor, zero opposed, and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.