

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND ADVISING
Minutes of the Meeting for March 11, 2008

The committee met on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 11:00a.m. in Room 210 Strong Hall. The following were present: Blackmore, Bradley, Burright, Carlson, Childs, Coon, Crosby, D'Anieri, Dickey, Kuczera, Ledom, Madden, Manning, McNeley, Rudolph, Schumaker, Shaw, Steinmetz (guest)

MINUTES The minutes for February 26, 2008, were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT No Report.

DEAN'S REPORT Dean Steinmetz would be present for discussion on Selective Admissions.

CLA&S STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES REPORT Dr. Kim McNeley reported academic advising was about to begin and that AP&P (Academic Procedures & Policies) was currently in discussion on the policy for withdrawal from courses.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

A. ADVISING & AWARDS—Professor Shaw reported discussion on advising assessment procedures.

B. CURRICULAR CHANGES/DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

1. Curricular Changes

FULL COMMITTEE ACTION:

Approval was granted for

BIOL 571, HIST 629, HIST 630, LING 110, PLSH 104,
PSYC 651, PSYC 679, PSYC 687, PSYC 692, PSYC 693,
PSYC 694, PSYC 695, PSYC 696, UYGR 102, UYGR 104,
UYGR 108, UYGR 201, UYGR 202

2. Agreed to File Changes LA&S 101

3. Other Business (see attached proposal)

a). Following discussion of a proposed 18 hour limit of non-liberal arts and sciences course work, it was agreed that it was better to define the required number of liberal arts and sciences hours required for the degree than to place a limit on non-liberal arts and sciences coursework.

FULL COMMITTEE ACTION:

Motion approved: A minimum of 106 hours in liberal arts and sciences is required for an undergraduate degree in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS—No Report.

OLD BUSINESS

No Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Following a discussion on Selective Admissions, it was agreed to collect departmental data for review and to invite two department chairs to the next meeting.

Dr. McNeley opened the discussion on projected implementation dates for the changes in General Education requirements.

FULL COMMITTEE ACTION:

Implementation dates for the following changes in General Education requirements:

- Motions approved:
- Students with initial term of Fall 2008
[Require a CLAS approved minor, co-major, or second major by the B.G.S. degree. Eliminate the option of a Junior/Senior Concentration requirement]
 - Current students in Fall 2008
[Reduction of the number of principal courses required for a B.A. degree from three courses to two courses in each major area of study (i.e., Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences)]
 - Students with initial term of Fall 2008
[Change in Second Math and NM (Math 111, 115, 121, 141, 365 – REMOVE AS NM PRINCIPAL COURSES); (Math 116, 122, 142, 526 – ADD AS NM PRINCIPAL COURSES)]
 - Fall 2008
[Plus/Minus Grading]
 - Students with initial term of Fall 2008
[A minimum of 106 hours in liberal arts and sciences is required for an undergraduate degree in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.]

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15P.M.

PROPOSAL TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF NON-COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES COURSES ALLOWED TO COUNT TOWARD A LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES DEGREE.

The minimum number of hours required to obtain an undergraduate degree at the University of Kansas is 124. With the change to the BA general education requirements, both the BA and BGS degrees will now require approximately 63 hours of general education course work, and most majors will require approximately 30 hours, for a combined total of 93 hours. This allows for the completion of approximately 31 elective hours.

The question before the committee is whether we want to guide our students as to the best way to use those “elective” hours. When the recommendation to reduce the number of principal courses required for the BA was proposed, part of the rationale for this proposal had to do with opening up more choices for our students to be able to complete an additional major or minor, or to gain more depth within a chosen discipline in the College and still be able to graduate in four years.

There is also concern that, if the 31 hours have no restrictions, students could complete almost one fourth of their degree with non-liberal arts and sciences courses. It is the subcommittee’s opinion that there should be some sort of limit on these courses, similar to the historical limit of 25 hours previously in place.

The Curricular Changes/Degree Requirements subcommittee therefore proposes a limit of 18 hours of non-liberal arts and sciences course work to be used to complete any undergraduate College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. This would allow students to complete a minor outside the College with most, if not all courses counting toward their degree in the College, but would communicate the clear expectation that in order to obtain a degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students should complete the majority of their courses within the College.

PROPOSAL AMENDED TO REQUIRE A MINIMUM NUMBER OF CLA&S HOURS RATHER THAN LIMIT NON-CLA&S HOURS. SEE AMENDED PROPOSAL APPROVED BY CUSA BELOW:

The Curricular Changes/Degree Requirements subcommittee therefore proposes **a minimum of 106 hours of liberal arts and sciences course work** to be used to complete any undergraduate College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. This would allow students to complete a minor outside the College with most, if not all courses counting toward their degree in the College, but would communicate the clear expectation that in order to obtain a degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students should complete the majority of their courses within the College.