

Academic Affairs Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 7, 2024 at 3:00pm

In-person, Memorial Union – Lincoln Room

Attendees: Beth O'Neill (ex-officio), Sarah Cook, Tracy Davies, Dion Harnowo, Sarah Holt, Jim Schnoebelen, Barbara Scofield, Cherry Steffen

The meeting was called to order by the committee at 3:06 pm.

- I. Approvals
 - a. Minutes from the Academic Affairs meeting held on September 23, 2024, were presented.
 - i. A motion for approval was made by Sarah Cook and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen.
 - ii. The motion was passed unanimously.

- II. Action Items
 - a. New program proposal
 - i. Middle Grades Math, BEd
 1. A motion for discussion was made by Sarah Holt and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen.
 2. Cherry Steffen discussed the program.
 - a. She noted that in secondary math, students want to teach at the middle and high school level, however calculus can be daunting for those teaching. She stated that the state is in the process to approve a new licensure program called "core math" that focuses on teaching lower-level secondary math courses but it is not ready for rollout. The state has already approved an "advanced core math" program for the upper-level middle and high school math courses that was rolled out by Washburn last academic year.
 - b. Cherry noted that we have students who want to student teach in the "core math" area. She mentioned that Washburn has an approved Middle Grade STEM program in which Washburn combined state-approved middle school math and middle school science programs. This new proposed program – Middle Grades Math – is essentially this approved math program.
 - c. While waiting for the "core math" program to be approved by the state, Cherry stated that the approval of this program will allow Washburn's students to student teach and take the middle grades math licensing test. They will then have an initial license in middle grades math and then when it is approved by the state, they can take the "core math" licensing exam. Cherry stated that the Middle Grades Math program may not be needed in the long term, in the event that it is replaced by a "core math" program.
 3. The committee discussed and asked several questions. During discussion, it was discovered that ED 340 and ED 349 were not included in the proposal. Sarah Cook also noted that the

program included an MA 131 or MA 151 option, and that MA 131 would soon be inactivated and suggested that the course be removed from the program so that only MA 151 would be listed. No "or" option.

4. The committee discussed options regarding these changes needed. It was decided to add a friendly amendment that would add ED 340 and ED 349 and remove MA 131 as an "or" option. Beth O'Neill noted that she would reach out to SAS to inform them of this friendly amendment and if they had any issues with it moving forward, it would be rolled back to SAS.
5. A motion to add and approve the friendly amendment was made by Sarah Cook and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen. The motion was passed unanimously.
6. Discussion continued. The committee asked Cherry about the state approved science program in the Middle Grade STEM. She agreed that it could also be a standalone program, but there was no discussion at this moment to move forward with that.
7. Committee notes that the Middle Grade Math program should be evaluated for continuance if and when the "core math" program is approved.
8. A motion for approval (with approved friendly amendment) was made by Sarah Holt and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen. The motion was passed unanimously.

b. Existing Programs / Significant Edits

i. Middle Grades STEM, BEd

1. A motion for discussion was made by Sarah Cook and seconded by Sarah Holt.
2. The committee noted that in the CAS Natural Sciences division there was discussion about the Chemistry department inactivating CH 317 that is noted in the Middle Grades STEM program. Cherry noted that she had discussions with Shaun Schmidt about this, but the proposal had not been submitted.
3. The committee discussed options. In anticipation of this inactivation and in order to not have the program go through the entire governance process again, the committee discussed a friendly amendment of replacing CH 317 with CH 3XX – Approved Chemistry Elective.
4. A motion to add and approve the friendly amendment was made by Sarah Cook and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen. The motion was passed unanimously.
5. A motion for approval (with approved friendly amendment) was made by Sarah Holt and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen. The motion was passed unanimously. Beth O'Neill again noted that she would reach out to SAS to inform them of this friendly amendment and if they had any issues with it moving forward, it would be rolled back to SAS.

III. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Tracy Davies and seconded by Jim Schnoebelen to conclude the meeting. The committee unanimously agreed. The meeting ended at 3:40 pm. Minutes taken by Holly Broxterman.