

**EPC Meeting
January 28, 2022**

In attendance: Jim Barber, Annie Blazer, Ben Boone, Susan Bosworth, Candice Benjes-Small, Magali Compan, Josh Erlich, Larry Evans, M. Brennan Harris, Matt Haug, Jim Deverick, Christy Porter, Cory Springer, Kristin Wustholz (chair) (Tom Zhang and Sallie Marchello joined the meeting around 12:00 p.m.)

1. Approval of the January 21, 2022 Minutes

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

2. Consent Calendar

AFST THEA - 339 - August Wilson's American Century Cycle

New course

APIA - 380 - Media Arts & Agency Mobilization

Arts proficiency

Economics - Economics

Curriculum Change

The consent calendar was approved.

3. Other proposals

PSYC - 470 - Understanding the Partisan Divide: Insights from Political Psychology COLL 300

Some committee members raised concerns about whether there was sufficient COLL300 content in the course material and assignments. Others wanted more details about the guest speakers. Kristin said that she will synthesize the committee's comments and communicate them to the instructor.

The committee briefly discussed the general issue of what would be required of courses that would fulfill both COLL300 and COLL350 (which is allowed through Spring 2024).

PUBP - 390 - Policy Tools: U.S. National Security

COLL 300

It is possible that this proposal is a revision of one that the instructor previously submitted. Last spring, EPC referred a similar proposal from the instructor to the CLA. Several committee members had concerns about whether the course material met the COLL300 requirements. As a course on U.S. National Security, the global, COLL300, component seemed to be a secondary theme of the course and to be insufficient, as currently articulated, for COLL300.

There was some discussion about whether this proposal could be reworked as a COLL350, but some committee members had doubts about this route as well.

Kristin said that she would communicate the committee's concerns to the instructor.

UREG Department - N/A

Curriculum Change

The committee continued its discussion of the proposal for a CONS concentration within the Interdisciplinary Studies major.

Kristin had previously circulated to members of the committee John Swaddle's responses to the questions that the committee raised as last week's meeting. Those fell into the following main areas:

- Plans for meeting anticipated student demand for courses
- Staffing questions, including the use of professional faculty, not in any academic school, as instructors of record
- Questions concerning the required summer internship, especially concerning planning if student demand is higher than anticipated

Initial discussion focused on the first and third points. There were some concerns raised about the current plan to regulate numbers in the major by limiting the maximum capacity of the "second-level" courses in the major (i.e., those major requirements after the introductory CONS course), including questions about

who would decide which students were able to register for these courses. There was some discussion of similar practices in other majors (e.g., EPAD) and the different methods used—such as first-come, first-served and adding new sections of the relevant courses. Some wondered whether the appropriate analogy was not to these A&S majors, but rather, to the Business School, which uses GPA to regulate admissions and class size. (There was some objection to this practice.) It was pointed out that some departments and programs use tiered enrollment to regulate registration in courses, but some committee members suggested that many students found this dissatisfactory (e.g., it need not decrease the demand for overrides).

There was some discussion about the summer internship being the sticking point regarding potential student demand. For example, if some students choose to attend W&M because of an interest in concentrating in CONS (as John Swaddle's responses to the committee's previous questions suggested), it is important that these students be able to complete the concentration, including the summer internship.

There was discussion about the fact that the unusual nature of this proposal (i.e., that it is for a concentration with the interdisciplinary studies major in A&S, not for a new major) results from the fact that the IIC does not reside in any academic school. Even if there is no objection to the proposal under consideration, the proposal raises more general concerns about (i) whether academic programs should be administered by units that do not reside in any academic school and (ii) whether faculty whose teaching is essential for academic programs can also not reside in any academic school.

Given that the donation that funded the IIC stipulated that a new concentration be introduced and given the current placement of the IIC within W&M's organizational structure, there did not seem to be any support for rejecting outright the proposal under consideration. However, some committee members expressed the desire for the general issues mentioned in the previous paragraph to be addressed before the committee votes on the proposal.

Kristen said that she would summarize the committee's discussion and convey it to John Swaddle, after consulting with some other members of the committee.

4. Deadline for Fall 2022 COLL 100/150 and COLL 350 proposals

Kristin suggested Friday, May 6, as a deadline for COLL100/150 and COLL350 proposals for Fall 2022. After some discussion, it was proposed that this be the deadline for all Fall 2022 proposals. There seemed to be consensus on this deadline.

-submitted by mch