### Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee Saint Louis University UAAC meeting minutes 9/2/21 and UAAC Sub Meeting Minutes 9/9/21

#### Associate Provost

The Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (UAAC) meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

#### **Minutes**

The May 2021 minutes passed with no corrections.

#### Reports/Proposal/Policies from Committee Members:

#### Dr. Lisa Fischer - Duolingo Score Concordance Update

Announced that in Spring 2020, Duolingo Score Concordance (DSC) replaced the English Language Proficiency Test due to the closing of test centers because of COVID. Below are key points to instituting the DSC:

- a. Focuses on general English with some academic content
- b. The test can be taken at home
- c. The DSC passing test score is 110, equivalent to the 550 TOEFL, which is aligned with other ivy league academic institutions.

#### FYI - Jesse Helton - CPHSJ UG PH Core Curriculum Updates

For your information: CPHSJ – BS Public Health - UG PH Core Curriculum Updates No change to the major itself, replaced the current core with the new University core to go into the 2022-2023 Academic Catalog (program change attached)



# Molly Schaller/Merlene Gilb – Undergraduate Teacher Education Redesign Proposal - SOE Educational Studies

The Dean challenged faculty to a redesign program to include: Expand recruitment to include more racial/ethnic and gender diversity in light of the revised learning outcomes and program goals. This redesign program will prepare equity minded new teachers who are committed to social justice, represent the diversity in schools and the broader communities.

This is an extensive redesign of the undergraduate teacher education program. Below are some key points of the redesign program:

- This provides a program unique to Saint Louis University that is grounded in Jesuit and Catholic values
- Offers a unified undergraduate teacher education program into one program

- Focuses on equity guided by inquiry for the purpose of advocacy
- Embeds early and often field experiences supporting student discernment and preparation for application
- Integrates Teacher Learning Communities (TLCs) throughout the program
- Engages students in a yearlong internship/student teaching experience for all certification areas.

The Dean wanted all concentration areas integrated into one program. The new program is intended to continue to serve the population of traditional students at Saint Louis University and be able to expand recruitment to include more racial/ethnic and gender diversity in light of the revised learning outcomes and program goals. The redesigned program will prepare equity minded new teachers who are committed to social justice, represent the diversity in schools and the broader communities, and are dedicated to meeting the needs of children/learners and families.

• 9-9-21 UAAC Sub-Committee unanimously approved Undergraduate Teacher Education Redesign Proposal. This will require CADD and BOT approval. SOE is required to send an Executive Summary to Associate Provost office. When received, the office will forward to CADD and BOT committees and it will be placed on their next meeting agenda.



## <u>Jay Haugen – Policies:</u>

#### Independent Studies A policy has been created by the University Registrar regarding clarity when offering independent and directed studies. This policy codifies and defines independent and directed studies. Independent study and directed study are frequently confused with one another. They are similar in that they both offer the opportunity to study individually with an instructor on a contractual basis, but they differ in intent.

Debbie Pike addressed the committee and asked Jay why there was an overall limit on directed study credit hours versus hours for independent study? She further stated she could see why on the Independent study, has a limit of less hours that directed study because it does not have the same curricular review as a regular course might have. Directed study essentially is a different delivery mechanism for a course in which has already been vetted.

Jay stated "we picked the study credit hour numbers based on prior experiences" and if the committee is interested in discussing 9 credits instead of 6 credits we could bring any feedback you receive from department colleagues to this committee and discuss further.

A member of the committee questioned if after any changes to this policy were made and approved, would there be a new form for the students to fill out or would it be the same form as before for the students? Jay told the committee members when new policies such as this is revised and (if there are statements) that would need to be incorporated-in to ensure the students understand, there might be slight changes, or a new form. However, only if this will

need to be done. Typically, and in general it will be the same form, asking the same type of information/permission as before. Jay further stated because it is important we do transcript the Independent Study Title on this form.

A member of the committee suggested in section 4.0 Guidelines and Procedures to change the deadline for the students. The following verbiage will be updated and the committee was encouraged to seek feedback from department colleagues.

#### 4.0 Guidelines

"The students are encouraged to submit the completed application with any required supporting documents to the Office of University Registrar prior to a semester starting and must submit no later than the end of the add/drop period of the semester in which the course work will be completed"

The policy will be discussed at the UAAC Sub-Committee meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

• 9-9-21 UAAC Sub-Committee unanimously approved Independent Studies Policy



### **Teach-Out Policy**

Discussion regarding this draft policy which codifies and builds upon the University's practice for establishing new academic programs. It also codifies a process for academic program closure.

The members addressed a few minor errors/words and would like to see the following changes corrected:

#### 1.0 Introduction:

(4<sup>th</sup> line) (program), or decides to close an off-campus (out-of-state or international) degreedelivery location.

#### 3.0 Policy Statements:

3.1: When the decision has been made to close a program or eliminate a delivery modality, it will no longer admit, etc.

3.4 Item #7 – A statement about how the school/department will assist students who are enrolled in the teach-out program who wish to transfer to another program or institution.

• 9-9-21 UAAC Sub-Committee unanimously approved Policy on Program Closure and Student Completion (Teach-Out Policy)



#### **Micro-Credential Definitions**

In creating the micro-credential definitions, the desire is to ensure that academic units have the autonomy and flexibility necessary to leverage multiple uses of micro-credentials across different audiences.

There are three categories in the Micro-credential which are academics, skill competencies and continuing education. The University Registrar did welcome some wisdom and took some content from NYU Faculty Task Force, who has completed 3-years of intensive research on this subject. It is important because we want a definition that does have academic limits and merits and will lead some freedom for the individual units deciding on how they will be defined.

Jay did encourage committee members to seek feedback from department colleagues and it was sent to the UAAC sub-committee members to be discussed and voted-upon.

 9-9-21 UAAC Sub-Committee would like to continue the on-going discussion and bring this policy back to the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 UAAC committee meeting. This will be voted upon at the next UAAC Sub-Committee meeting which will take place on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



#### **Proposed University Policy**

This is a "draft" of a policy at the University level which is attempting to codify what already exists and what we already are doing regarding program closures/new programs. Essentially the same process as UAAC and GAAC accomplishes each month.

What has not been established and/or fully developed yet is the process for how we will, in an on-going and continuing fashion do Academic Portfolio Review. A new committee will be formed to work yearly on Academic Portfolio Review.



#### Old Business:

N/A

Announcements: Next UAAC Meeting will be on October 7th, 2021 via zoom