

University Undergraduate Committee Notes of Discussion

August 26, 2020 – 1:00pm-2:30pm, Zoom virtual

Meeting called by: Ambur Lindstrom-Mette, Chair
Type of meeting: University Undergraduate Committee
Facilitator: Ambur Lindstrom-Mette
Note taker: Barbara Branton

Voting members: Ambur Lindstrom-Mette, Zhan (Jen) Xu, Christopher Gore, Brian Stone, Marcie Delmotte, Andrew See, Jin Wang, Joe Collentine, Lauren Acosta, Melissa Settle, Melissa Schonauer, Whitney Stefani,

Non-Voting members: Melinda Treml, Stephanie Winters, Jeff Berglund, Chris Drake, Samantha Clifford, Steve Palmer,

Excused: Laura Blank,

Guest:

Agenda and notes of discussion

Topic	Discussion
Welcome	Call to Order Quorum was present. Members introduced themselves with background and colleges they represent.
Notes of Discussion	M. Delmotte moved, B. Stone seconded and the notes of discussion for April 15, 2020 were approved.
Charge to the Committee	Members were introduced to the duties of the committee. Normally, the committee reviews a number of self – studies from programs undergoing their 7-year reviews. So far, only one has been received. It is anticipated the committee will use its time reviewing curriculum for micro credentials (bundled courses of up to 11 credits). These may be for credit or not for credit but still need to ensure a quality education. There may be curricula to review as a result of the Provost’s reimagine process. The Liberal Studies task force should also have a proposal for review and input that will bring NAU’s general education/Liberal Studies program into compliance with ABOR’s June 2019 policy.
Program Review this year	One self-study from Career Tech has been submitted. More may come forward as the year progresses. Potential college programs include SBS (4), CAL (1) and COE (1).
Curriculum Timeline	The AY 20-21 curriculum timeline was presented. This committee reviews courses for programs such as Honors, ROTC and First Year Seminar. Since the committee is set to meet bi-weekly, reviews are generally addressed as course are received. The appropriate faculty are invited to discuss their courses with the committee during the course review(s).

Liberal Studies Task Force update	<p>Director Berglund and M. Trembl presented an overview of the task force (LSTF) charge which came out of the adoption of 2019 ABOR general education policy. The task force has been working to design a program that complies with the new policy and also addresses elements for improvement that were noted in the Liberal Studies 7-year external review. The LSTF spent AY 19-20 reviewing the distribution blocks and articulating them within the framework of the adopted ABOR policy. The goal is for an easy to describe and understand program. While NAU tracks the distribution blocks, it has not tracked the essential skills. The LSTF has been working to assimilate skills from the ABOR policy into its new program. ABOR also seeks assessment across the curriculum for a series of skills. Essential writing is scaffolded now; but, oral communication/civil discourse, teamwork, quantitative reasoning/data literacy and application of ideas for real-world situations need to be addressed. The LSTF will also be looking at possible models for the new program this fall.</p>
Minors	<p>The committee received an overview of the spring discussion of the challenges for students who had a minor that overlapped more than 50% with the major. Existing definitions were shared and proposed definitions will be up for review/discussion at the next meeting. During the summer, a review was conducted of the programs with the overlap. Generally, the issue is within large professional degree programs such as Engineering (math/physics minors) or Nursing majors (bio or chem minors). The goal is to develop a definition, get constituent input and share with Faculty Senate this fall for approval.</p>
Good of the Order (opportunity to bring forward future agenda items)	
Announcements	<p>Thanks to Ambur for stepping into the chair role.</p>
Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.</p>