Academic Standards Committee  
Policy Subcommittee Meeting  
03/31/2017  
Minutes

In attendance: Meghan Bacher, Jo Crane, Alyce DeMarais, Sarah Shives, Peter Sullivan, Brad Tomhave, Ben Tucker, Landon Wade, Kurt Walls

Chair Jo Crane called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

M/S/P Walls/Sullivan to approve minutes of the March 3, 2017 ASC Policy Subcommittee meeting (with two minor changes).

Petitions Sub-Committee Report  
Brad Tomhave reported on the petitions activity for this period, with comparisons to last year (Appendix I).

Advanced Placement (AP) Credit for German Studies  
Kent Hooper has proposed the following shift regarding the use of AP credit toward the German Studies major and minor:
1. AP score of 3 allows students to fulfill the FL-Proficiency Requirement instead of a 4.
2. AP score of 3 should count towards one unit of the major/minor and graduation; and a score of a 4 or a 5 should count for two units towards the major/minor and towards graduation.

At the behest of the Curriculum Committee (Appendix II), we discussed the proposed policy changes.

Kurt Walls asked if the impetus for these changes was due to fewer students being able to get German preparation in high school. Brad thinks so and opined that Kent is attempting to make the German Studies major more attractive to students.

Peter Sullivan asked which committee determines whether German 101 and 102 can apply to the major. Brad responded that this was the Curriculum Committee’s purview. There are currently some differences among programs in terms of what majors accept 101/102 as counting toward the major (e.g., for the Asian language majors, 101/102 apply to the major) as well as AP scores accepted for credit (e.g., Math/CS accepts an AP score of 3 for credit).

Brad noted it would be better to link AP scores to numbered classes so students know where they stand and what classes they should take. An issue we could discuss with the foreign language faculty is how students are placed in courses and how credit is assigned. This provides an opportunity for determining a policy for granting AP credit in languages.

We agreed that moving the German 101/102 courses to apply to the major makes sense, given that more students may be coming to Puget Sound without preparation in German language. Most AP credit is placed at a 4 or 5, except for the Math/CS program where an AP score of 3 provides credit. Does an AP score of 3 in a language indicate sufficient preparation for credit at Puget Sound? If assigning AP credit goes to the faculty, we will need to develop a mechanism for departments/programs to determine if a 3 provides adequate preparation.
Kent and the AP folks are indicating that a 4 or 5 on the AP German exam is equivalent to taking all 100- and 200-level German courses. Our decision follows the Curriculum Committee decision on whether GERM 101/102 applies to the major. Then ASC can make the decision about whether to award credit for AP exams.

**Foreign Language Requirement**
Jo reported that Kent raised another issue regarding the foreign language requirement and how we provide accommodation for students with learning disabilities regarding language acquisition. Are we doing a disservice to students by providing alternative coursework? We tabled the discussion due to time constraints.

**Action Items**
- Jo will ask the Curriculum Committee to decide on the question of whether German 101/102 could apply to the German Studies Major.

**Upcoming Business:**
- Running Start credit
- ASC/FEPPS relationship
- German Advanced Placement question from the Curriculum Committee
- Foreign language requirement alternatives

Meeting adjourned by attrition at 3:00 PM.
Appendix I

Petitions for the Period of 03/03/2017 – 03/30/2017

During the dates covered by this report, the following actions were taken on petitions submitted to the Academic Standards Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Petitions Description</th>
<th>Approved by Sub-Committee</th>
<th>Approved by Preview Team</th>
<th>Denied by Sub-Committee</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-enrollment after Medical Withdrawal</td>
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<td>Re-enrollment after Complete Withdrawal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Withdrawal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Concurrent Enrollment</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Repeat for Second Time</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of Foreign Language by Alternative Courses</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Without Record After Deadline</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop With 'W' After Deadline</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the year to date, a total of 159 petitions have been approved and 24 petitions have been denied. Of these 183 total petitions, 60 involved registration with a schedule conflict and 27 granted a medical withdrawal.

This year’s petition activity represents an increase over last year’s activity when, by March 29, 2016, 177 petitions had been acted upon: 13 denied and 164 approved to include 51 schedule conflict registrations and 25 medical withdrawals.
Appendix II
Message from Ben Tromly on behalf of the Curriculum Committee:

Brad Tomhave explained that this aspect of the German review was a matter for the Academic Standards Committee, not CC, as it would represent a break with university policy regarding AP credit in the following ways: a) “the standard minimum Advanced Placement score is 4” and b) “there is no policy allowing different credit for different scores on the same exam.” He suggested that I forward this to you in order to get the ASC input on the AP credit issue.

Below I am pasting some prose from Hooper explaining the proposed change. I am also cc-ing Hooper in case it is easier for you to touch base directly about this.

Please let me know when your committee might be able to consider this question.
Sincerely,
Benjamin Tromly

Problem #3:
Students who test out (AP) of 101 and 102 must enroll in 201 to fulfill the Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement. Students lack sufficient incentive to enroll in 202 and beyond.

Ideal Solutions:
Students completing 201 by testing out of 101-102 should be granted 2 credits towards the minor and towards the major (for 101 and 102). I would also argue that students who score 3 on AP German should be placed into 201 and also be awarded one credit (if not two credits) towards graduation. As it stands currently, students need to score a 4 or a 5. Students who score 4 and 5 should be placed in post-202 courses and granted 2 credits toward graduation and 4 units towards the German minor and major.

Realistic Solution:
Not all that long ago, I was involved with German AP grading for more than a decade and rose in rank to one level below Chief Reader. The examinations—and I can only speak for German—are well vetted before being administered, the testing of German-language skills matches up extremely well with what is taught in Elementary German and Intermediate German, and the scores are statistically valid, which in the current climate that fetishizes assessment, data, and outcomes should mean something to some administrators.
I propose that any student will have met the UPS FL-Proficiency Requirement with a score of 3 (as opposed to the current requirement of a 4, which was decided by members of the old Foreign Languages and Literature Department, none of whom other than me had experience with the AP test or the grading, and most of whom to be quite frank were more concerned with making sure they had a steady stream of customers in their lower-level language courses.
I also propose that students scoring a 3 receive one unit of credit towards graduation and one credit towards the German major or minor. Any student who scores a 4 or a 5 should be given two credits towards graduation and two credits towards the German major. If we take assessment seriously, then we need to take seriously nationally-normed exams and reward the well prepared incoming students. After all, we really do not penalize the profoundly underprepared....