



**Western Connecticut State University
Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards
CUCAS Minutes for February 18, 2016
212/214 (WS)**

2015 - 2016 Members Present - Nicholas Greco (Chair), Keith Gauvin, Jerry Wilcox, Missy Alexander, Jamie Begian, Jess House, David Martin, J.C Barone, Ming Ling Chuang, Barbara Piscopo, Divya Sharma, Dave Smith, Timothy Wiggins, Linda Dalessio, Katie Lever-Mazzuto

Members not present: Jessica Eckstein, Evelin Garcia, Ana DosSantos

Guests: Terri Small, William P. De Feo, Anthony Markert, Ann Atkinson

Called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes:

1. **Minutes of CUCAS Meeting from December 12th 2015**

- Motion to approve: Barbara Piscopo, 2nd, Katie Lever-Mazzuto
- Discussions/Corrections: (1) One – Interpersonal Violence Statement was **not approved**.
 - 1. Interpersonal Violence Statement on course syllabi. (J. Eckstein)
 - #Approved: 4 /Opposed: 3 Abstains: 4
 - *December 12th, 2015 Revised Minutes have been edited and forwarded to N. Greco.
- #Approved: 10 / Opposed: 0

Announcements:

2. **“Summer Curriculum Related Activities” Committee Review(March 2016)**

*Every year we ask three (3) CUCAS Members and three (3) Graduate Council members to review the “Summer Curriculum Related Activities”. This is a tremendously worthwhile endeavor that requires little time (1-2 meetings) and provides substantial insight to campus happenings and activities.

Thank you to the following CUCAS Volunteers:

- Barbara Piscopo
- Divya Sharma
- Linda Dalessio



Reports:

1. General Education Committee Report – (T. Wiggins)

- ❖ Just a note from Missy Alexander: *Missy is doing the “happy dance” as she has tracked everything in the cue and everything has been approved. There will be 150 competencies done by the first week in March. “Everything looks good and they are spread pretty well.” “We still need to get ‘Health and Wellness” done and a few more from “Creative Process”, but we are moving along and I am very excited about that!” M. Alexander wanted to extend special “thank –you” to Stuart Dalton who really went through his curriculum thoughtfully along with reviewing the creative process and spreading “critical thinking” in very nice ways.*

Old Business:

1. **Proposal from the Distance Education Committee (G. Skiva & B. Stevens)**

a. Hybrid Course Definition Change (Ratio of Face-to-Face to Online Instruction) (CD1516092).

- Motion to approve: Missy Alexander, 2nd, Divya Sharma
- Discussions/Corrections: 50% Contact/Face to Face online at the maximum. There is no distinction between levels. No more than 50% (**50% is the maximum**)
- Food for Thought: M. Alexander- How do we vet levels? Are we thinking about how we are revising? – philosophically? Pedagogically ? – Certainly warrants greater thought and consideration.
- #Approved: 11 / Abstain: 1 / Opposed: 0 Abstains: 0

2. **Course credit definitions (Question was raised by B. Piscopo)**

*How do we go about course credit definitions? If we want to have further discussions perhaps we can talk about what we want to discuss and what we want to do with it. Consequently, this was just for discussion and informational purposes more than anything. B. Piscopo brought it up because she was not quite certain of how “course credit definitions” were decided. N. Greco indicated that the NEASC definition clearly defines most of the educational credit definitions and doesn’t delineate the differences between all of them though. But the information is out there. What’s the impact to the student? What’s the impact to the faculty? Ideally, this is worthwhile for us to know and something to think about when we are thinking about and reviewing curriculum proposals.

New Business:

1. **Proposal from the Justice & Law Administration Department (W. P. De Feo and A. Markert,)**

- a. JLA Program Change – Corrections option (CD1516175)
- b. JLA Program Change – Law Enforcement option (CD1516176)
- c. JLA Program Change – Legal Studies option (CD1516177)
- d. JLA Program Change – Criminology option (CD1516178)
- e. JLA Program Change – Paralegal Preparation option (CD1516179)



- Motion to approve as a packet: Missy Alexander , Divya Sharma 2nd;
 - Discussion: A. Markert provided additional discussion. There are five (5) options, five (5) program sheets, 5 sets of submissions. Consensus was for the “W” on the end of the course number. Program sheets will be revised and submitted. N. Greco mentioned everything was detailed out pretty perfectly. As far as law enforcement, legal studies and criminology, Semester 4 in the plan, it should be listed as **16 credits**. At this time, another program sheet is not needed, just adjust the “15-16” to “16”, so that the numbers add up, specifically for those three. N. Greco will send an email to C. Netto and copy W.P. De Feo and A. Markert as well.
- #Approved: 12 /Opposed: 0 Abstains: 0

2. & 3. Proposal from the Psychology Department (S. Murphy)

- a. TAP agreement in Psychology (CD1516180)

Proposal from the Chemistry Department (R. Selzer)

- a. TAP agreement in Chemistry (CD1516208)

- Motion to approve as a packet: JC Barone, Katie Lever-Mazzuto , 2nd;
 - Discussion: This is primarily an endorsement that has already been approved.
- #Approved: 12 /Opposed: 0 Abstains: 0

5. Proposal from CUCAS (Tabled for March CUCAS Meeting)

- a. Course level definitions

- Motion to approve as a packet: , 2nd;
 - Discussion: N. Greco advised that he would like to keep this on the agenda for March’s CUCAS Meeting. This will give everybody more time to review and then officially vote at the next CUCAS. N. Greco also advised that if anyone has any questions or suggestions to please send those directly to him. The idea of these course level definitions is to provide some sort of guidance as opposed to a prescription as to “this is what needs to be done”. Additionally, it might be helpful to think about this in terms of courses that are coming forward. We are constantly thinking about curriculum and so we should be having this in mind as well. As a committee member if you don’t feel that this is going to be as much guidance as you need maybe you want more or less, but I think you will find that this is very good.
- #Approved: /Opposed:

Motion to adjourn: Missy Alexander 2nd Katie Lever-Mazzuto. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM