

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
University Committee on Undergraduate Education
MINUTES

Thursday, October 7, 2021
10:15 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., via Zoom

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96531712347>

Passcode: 849464

Present: Rachel Barnard, Allison Berg, Mike Callahan, Glenn Chambers, Richard Enbody, Kathleen Gallo, Nicole Geske, David Gilstrap, Aaron Iturralde, Chris Kaiser, Mark Largent, Gina Leininger, Emilia Marcyk-Taylor, Noihrita Masud, Helen Mayer, Lauren Sawyer, Steve Shablin, Robin Silbergleid, Tyler Silvestri, Alexandria Thrubis Stanley, Lauren Sawyer, Thomas Summerhill, Antoinette Tessmer, Patty West, Scot Yoder, Matt Zierler

Absent: Jonelle Golding

The agenda was approved.

The minutes were approved for September 2, 2021.

Comments from the Chairperson

Chairperson Leininger updated UCUE on the following:

- A special task force, including some UCUE members, reviewed options over the summer for a new Student Instructional Rating System (SIRS) platform. Explorance Blue has been recommended as the new SIRS platform.
- Findings from the Academic Calendar Taskforce that met last year were presented to the University Council on 9/28/21. Recommendations included the incorporation of a fall break and changing fall and spring semesters to be the same length.
- The draft Code for Academic Advising that UCUE generated last year will be discussed at a UCUE meeting in November after stakeholder suggestions have been compiled. The Steering Committee has asked UCUE if there are processes in place to address the end of semester complaints from students who did not do as well as they expected due to absences related to isolation or quarantine.

Comments from the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Associate Provost Largent thanked Chairperson Leininger for her leadership.

Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Journalism available for Secondary Certification (Action Item)

Ann Hoffman, Assistant Dean, College of Communication Arts and Sciences

The committee granted voice to Assistant Dean Hoffman.

Assistant Dean Hoffman stated that this minor was put in moratorium about eighteen months ago due to the fact that the State Department of Education eliminated the option for journalism as a minor in secondary education. No students are being disadvantaged by the discontinuance.

Voice was removed from Assistant Dean Hoffman.

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Disciplinary Teaching Minor in Journalism available for Secondary Certification.

Request to Change the Admission Requirements for the Minor in Real Estate (Action Item)

Jim Anhut, Director of Real Estate Minor, Hospitality Business, Broad College of Business

The committee granted voice to Jim Anhut.

Mr. Anhut stated the College would like to make the minor more accessible to students across campus such as for students in the School of Architecture Planning and Design. The necessary credit hours for the minor was extensive and therefore not accessible to some students. Mr. Anhut stated the total credit hours have been changed from 56 to 28 and core requirements have decreased from 25 to 16. The changes have been made to eliminate unnecessary material for students to grasp the content of the minor.

A discussion was held concerning inconsistencies throughout the Request document that UCUE felt would be confusing for students. UCUE suggested that Mr. Anhut clarify language throughout the document and return to UCUE at a future date for the minor to be approved.

Voice was removed from Jim Anhut.

Note: After this meeting, it was determined that UCUE was not reading from the DRAFT Catalog Copy that is provided from the Associate Provost for Academic Services office. By delaying the vote and requesting that a Broad representative return to UCUE for a future vote will unnecessarily disadvantage the department. Therefore, after consultation with Chairperson Leininger, Joy Speas, and Hospitality Business, an email vote was held to approve the Request on October 19, 2021 stating that UCUE's concerns were adequately addressed in the DRAFT Catalog Copy that was shared with UCUE members.

Request for a New Minor in Resource Management from the Individual, Family and Societal Perspective (Action Item)

Adrian Blow, Chairperson, Human Development and Family Studies

The committee granted voice to Dr. Blow.

Dr. Blow stated the new minor is being created by student demand. Students taking financial literacy courses are asking for additional courses in the resource management area.

Voice was removed from Dr. Blow.

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a New Minor in Resource Management form the Individual, Family, and Societal Perspective with the following suggestions:

- **In the future, allow the minor to be available to students outside of the College of Social Science and consider renaming;**
- **Under the section labeled, "Requirements for the Minor in Resource Management from the Individual, Family and Societal Perspective," the document states, "Students must complete 15 credits from the following:" This sentence should read, "Students must complete 15-16 credits from the following:."**

Request from Provost's office re Opportunity for Biannual Enrollment (Action Item)

Mark Largent, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Associate Provost Largent led a discussion regarding the possibility of semiannual enrollment which is an option with the implementation of Campus Solutions and asked for guidance on how academic governance could explore this possibility.

With current annual enrollment, students speak with advisors more often during the months of January, February, and March. Semi annual enrollment will most likely give students a reason to speak with advisors more often which will more evenly distribute the workload for advisors and could help students stay on track. With semi annual enrollment, class schedules would still be available to view, however enrollment would be separate for fall and spring semesters.

Concerns regarding semiannual enrollment included the delegation of teaching resources, summer enrollment, online classes, block tuition and impact on student planning in relation to study abroad and internships.

A motion was made and approved to form a subcommittee to include UCUE members, ASMSU, advising leads, and a representative from the Registrar's Office to examine the Provost's request to explore the opportunity for biannual enrollment. Volunteers include Antoinette Tessmer, Noihrita Masud, Aaron Iturralde, Lauren Sawyer, Robin Silbergleid, and Alexandria Thrubis Stanley.

Request from University Council re if there should be a required diversity-focused course for undergraduate students (Action Item)

Gina Leininger, UCUE Chairperson

Chairperson Leininger opened a discussion regarding if there should be a required diversity-focused course for undergraduate students. Tyler Silvestri clarified that the request came from the Steering Committee back in April and stated that the possible course would be taught as a general education requirement opposed to an online module.

Members indicated concern that the course be taught in a meaningful way to advance the understanding of diversity and not be something taught just to meet a requirement. A member suggested referencing the Strategic Plan of the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives.

A motion was made and approved to form a subcommittee of members from UCUE, ASMSU, and to contact the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives on whether there should be a required diversity-focused undergraduate course. Volunteers include: Emilia Marcyk, Thomas Summerhill, and Chairperson Leininger. Chairperson Leininger will coordinate with ASMSU and Dr. Bennett's office about finalizing this committee.

Roundtable

There were no items reported for Roundtable.