

Undergraduate Council Meeting Minutes
April 26th 2:30 pm Zoom
2:30 pm-4:00 pm

1. Welcome – Dr. William Benner
 - a. Review and approve minutes of the Undergraduate Council Meeting held on March 29, 2023.
 - i. Approved by UGC
2. Committees:
 - a. Course Proposal Committee - Dr. Ana Louise Keating
 - i. NFS 2323 Introduction to Nutrition: There were some suggestions for SLOs that were accepted and updated.
 1. Approved by UGC
 - b. Program Review Committee – Mr. James Lytle
 - i. Recommend for Approval-
 1. BA in English (Social Justice): Forth track for English majors and combined effort with MCWGS. This Social Justice track was created in an effort to offer our students a more cultural studies approach that has been used and housed in English Studies. Students will take a mixture of writing courses, and literature with a focus on diverse perspectives and we have folded in some MWGS courses. Also, English majors are required to have a minor and we have limited the list of minors for this track for students to choose from, and we want to encourage our students to choose the MWGS minor as we want to have cross-pollination between the English department and MWGS. The benefits are great for our students. In addition, we will work with students on how both the major and minor will support each other.
 - a. Approved by UGC
 2. BS in Aviation Science: 120 credit hour program will be housed in the School of Aeronautical Sciences in the College of Arts & Sciences. The purpose is to train students in operating single and multi-engine aircraft and flight instruction and flight management with a strong foundation in liberal arts education. This also qualifies the students to get their airline transport pilot certificate and this is the highest that is required. This program also allows the student to get a restricted hour of 1000 hours flight program for the airline transport pilot certificate, which is the lowest. We will be potentially partner with the Denton Regional Airport for flight hours. We have spent a good portion of this academic year working on the curriculum and had a consultant from TCC, Clint Grant who runs the aviation program at TCC. We meet the 60 hours AVS course threshold so that our students will have to do a fewer number of hours in the air before they get their licenses. We are meeting all the standards required by the FFA and we are drawing on the strengths of our Arts & Sciences program. We have folded in a technical writing course that we already offer in English program, that will give our students a leg up, especially on the management track of

the program. We will also create a history of aviation and space course with the help for Dr. Landdeck as this is a course that she has taught as a special topic. This will enhance the degree and set us apart from other programs in Texas and Oklahoma. RFT will be issued and we are hoping that the US Aviation Academy at the Denton Airport to provide the flight time for pilot instruction. Dr. Biggerstaff: I do have a bigger picture question, it is projected to have a \$1.2-1.3 million budget a year once it gets in a couple of years and will have about 100 students, is that number of students going to be able to support the program? And, then creating a new program raises concerns for me when we are not able to support our merit raises. Dr. Graves: the best way for me to answer that right now is we are looking forward to an announcement that will be made at the Board of Regents meeting in May concerning funding that will be able to support the program, I am not able to fully address this question and concern at this time. Dr. Miloch: Thank you for that question. The funding will be able to support the program and resources from other programs will not be sacrificed. In year three we will have about 75 students and that is the same year that formula funding will kick in as new programs do not receive formula funding from the state until year three. By then the program should be to sustain itself.

Approved by UGC

3. BS in Informatics (Accelerated MS w/Data Science Minor): 12 hours of upper level will count toward the BS and MS degrees. This is to address the need for more Data Scientists. This program is to give more specificity in the classes that need to be added for the four plus one or two plus three track for Data Informatics. Is there a GPA requirement for those that are pursuing the accelerated master's track? Yes, there is, a 3.5 GPA and there is a standard for the Graduate School of 3.0, they need a 3.5 to apply so that they will have a 3.0 when they complete the program. It is listed as a fall start only, what is the reason for that decision? Yes, since it needs to be completed in five years window and courses need to be taken in a certain order we had to list it as a fall start. Could you talk about the job market in Texas, and what kinds of jobs students could get from the program? Yes, the first will be Data Scientist, as this is what we are focusing. This will allow them to fast track through data science classically and moved into any job of Data Science and this allows students to not have specialization as Data Science is broad enough to work any field.

a. Approved by UGC

4. UG Certificate in Thought Leadership: This is from the English department and MWGS to combine the courses to write effectively about social justice issues. In addition, is available for current and post-baccalaureate degrees. Are there any new courses? No, there are no new courses, but we do hope to create new courses down the line that will fit into other certificates/programs and we do not see any

budget issues arising from the department. This certificate grew out of Woman’s Thought Leadership program, in year two. Close alignment with QEP.

a. Approved by UGC

5. BA in Art (Art History & Visual Culture): This degree was last offered in AY 2019-2020 and is still on the books THECB. They want to update the curriculum to better align the track with the Visual Arts divisions, the School of Art & Design, and the College of Arts & Science’s mission for diversity and inclusion. Reconfiguring the program and making it active. We have three new courses that we are folding into the program, two of them have been offered before as special topics and have been popular and one is new and is Interdisciplinary in the Art, as this will bring in the interdisciplinary, diversity, and inclusion. The majority are preexisting and we will not need additional faculty and will be a smooth transition. Since this is not a new program, where will the students come from? The interest is there, they will be some of our students in other art programs, and we will do some recruiting. 25- 30 majors are a rough estimate of how many students. We also do not know the demand since we did have a break in the program. This has also never been one of our bigger programs. There is a minimum number of graduates for low-performing programs; will you be above that number? We did have the program for about 20 years and we did sustain it, so I do not see a reason why we would not be able to sustain it. You stated that you teach most of the courses that will be folded into the program, what kind of enrollment do you have? We cap it at 20 but we had 12 -15 enrolled, and we have students asking when the class will be offered again, so I see the enrollment rising and needing to reevaluate the clap later on.

a. Approved by UGC

- c. Assessment Committee – Dr. Jennifer Flanagan: We are still working on the survey but will pull from the Friday workshop on how to move forward.
 - d. Academic Policy Advisory Committee – Dr. Matt Brown: We have completed our task for this year as we are done with the ByLaws.
3. TWU Undergraduate Updates- Mrs. Rachele Land and Dr. Jorge Figueroa: Accelerated need to be approved by the graduate council. Aviation will need to be sent to the coordinating board for approval and the Nutrition course will also be sent.
 4. Undergraduate Council Members ending their terms:

Name	Term	Name	Term
Dr. Brandi Falley* - Vice Chair	2 nd	Mr. Jordan Fuchs (replaced Williford –Shade, retired in 2022)**	2 nd
Dr. Jonathan Olsen (replaced Claire Brock, left TWU in 2022)**	1 st	Nya Saturley (student)*	1 st

Areli Hernandez Zuñiga (student)*	1 st	Dr. Claire Sahlin (Council of Chairs Representative)*	1 st
Dr. Joshua Adams (Academic Council Representative)	1 st	Peggy Landrum (Faculty Senate Representative)	1 st
Dr. Jackie Hoermann-Elliott	1 st	Dr. William Benner	1 st
Sarah Gamblin	1 st	Aubri Thurmond	1 st
Dr. Elisa Na	1 st	Dr. Matt Brown	1 st
Tanya Synar	1 st	Dr. Bitu Payesteh	1 st
Dr. Kyle Biggerstaff	1 st	Dr. Aimee Myers	1 st

*completed two full terms

** completed term of vacancy and not returning for 2023-2024

5. Nominations and Voting for Chair & Vice-Chair for the 2023-2024 Undergraduate Council

a. Chair Nominations

i. **Dr. William Benner - elected**

ii. Dr. Daniel Milan

b. Vice-Chair Nominations

i. Dr. Daniel Milan

ii. Dr. Jerry Burkett

iii. Mr. James Lytle

iv. **Dr. Elisa Na - elected**

v. Ms. Sarah Gamblin

vi. Dr. AnaLouise Keating – removed herself from nominations before the meeting started

vii. Dr. Jennifer Flanagan

viii. Dr. Aimee Myers

ix. Ms. Nikki Fog

6. Other Business – Dr. William Benner

a. Updates on Initiatives-Workshop “Creating a Well Rounded Syllabus.”

7. Adjournment: 3:34 pm