

**MINUTES**  
**COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES**  
**March 21, 2016**  
**230 Student Services Building, 3:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** G. Chandler-Smith (Chair); R. Ashton; J. Baker; J. Brozovsky; J. Clevenger for R. Sumichrast; K. Gilbertson for M. Finn; C. Harris for S. Hirt; G. Jones; A.M. Knoblauch; G. Long for L. Nam Chang; C. Mitchell; A. Myers-Burton; J. Sible; D. Smith; S. Sumner for A. Grant; H. Thomas; D. Thorp for E. Spiller; B. Watford for R. Benson; E. Wiseman; G. Yee; A. Zink-Sharp

**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** M. Hajj; S. Martin; K. Rawlings; K. Redican for C. Clarke

**ABSENT WITHOUT NOTIFICATION:** L. Geyer; R. Holloway; Z. Montgomery

**VISITORS:** C. Rittenhouse; R. Sparks; G. Costello; G. Kinder; J. Sanders

**CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Gena Chandler-Smith, Chair.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPROVAL AND POSTING OF MINUTES**

G. Chandler-Smith announced the February 22, 2016 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website:

<http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/2015-2016/CUSP-Minutes-Feb-22-16.pdf>.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Resolution 2015-16.J, *Revision to Prohibiting Students from Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages (Undergraduate Repeating Course Enrollment Policy)*, Second Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2015-16.J, *Revision to Prohibiting Students from Repeating Courses to Improve Grade Averages (Undergraduate Repeating Course Enrollment Policy)*.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith informed the Commission that the Faculty Senate had waived their right to review Resolution 2015-16.J. Comments concerning this resolution by individual Faculty Senators were provided to the Academic Policies Committee.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.J.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Clarification that courses which are repeatable with different topics will not be impacted by the proposed policy
- Clarification on the appeals process for students
- Clarification on the process of notifying advisers of those students who are impacted by this policy

Hearing no further questions/discussion, Chair G. Chandler-Smith called for a vote on Resolution 2015-2016.J.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution 2015-2016.K, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Clinical Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2015-2016.K, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Clinical Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience*.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.K.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Rationale for creation of this major
  - Neuroscience degree is very broad
  - Creation of this new major allows for specificity of research and scholarship within the discipline
  - Creation of this new major will assist in recruitment of new students to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience
- Recommendation to remove the following text from the resolution:
  - “WHEREAS, with this change, enrollment pressure on some of the upper-level Neuroscience courses will not only be alleviated but students will have smaller classes and more faculty-student interactions, and”

Resolution 2015-2016.K has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2015-2016.K will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2015-2016.L, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2015-2016.L, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience.*

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.L.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Rationale for creation of this major
  - Neuroscience degree is very broad
  - Creation of this new major allows for specificity of research and scholarship within the discipline
  - Creation of this new major will assist in recruitment of new students to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience
- Recommendation to remove the following text from the resolution:
  - “WHEREAS, with this change, enrollment pressure on some of the upper-level Neuroscience courses will not only be alleviated but students will have smaller classes and more faculty-student interactions, and”

Resolution 2015-2016.L has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2015-2016.L will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2015-2016.M, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Experimental Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, First Reading.*

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2015-2016.M, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Experimental Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience.*

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.M.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Rationale for creation of this major
  - Neuroscience degree is very broad
  - Creation of this new major allows for specificity of research and scholarship within the discipline
  - Creation of this new major will assist in recruitment of new students to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience
- Recommendation to remove the following text from the resolution:
  - “WHEREAS, with this change, enrollment pressure on some of the upper-level Neuroscience courses will not only be alleviated but students will have smaller classes and more faculty-student interactions, and”

Resolution 2015-2016.M has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2015-2016.M will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2015-2016.N, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Computational and Systems Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2015-2016.N, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Computational and Systems Neuroscience, in Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience*.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.N.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Rationale for creation of this major
  - Neuroscience degree is very broad
  - Creation of this new major allows for specificity of research and scholarship within the discipline
  - Creation of this new major will assist in recruitment of new students to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience
- Recommendation to remove the following text from the resolution:
  - “WHEREAS, with this change, enrollment pressure on some of the upper-level Neuroscience courses will not only be alleviated but students will have smaller classes and more faculty-student interactions, and”

Resolution 2015-2016.N has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2015-2016.N will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

Resolution 2015-2016.O, *Resolution to Establish Guidelines for Independent Study and Undergraduate Research*, First Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2015-2016.O, *Resolution to Establish Guidelines for Independent Study and Undergraduate Research*.

Chair G. Chandler-Smith opened the floor for discussion on Resolution 2015-2016.O.

Discussion and clarification topics included the following:

- Rationale for creation of this policy
  - Internal audit of course and grading policies to identify any challenges to academic integrity similar to those which occurred at a peer university in North Carolina.

- Discussion related to the desire to strengthen parameters/controls currently governing independent studies and undergraduate research
- Discussion related to insuring the integrity of these types of learning experiences
  - Discussion related to what is defined as a credit hour and how lab/research hours would be referenced in policy
  - Presented that a review of peer institutions, noting a range of 6 to 12 hours credit hours was the maximum
- Potential impacts to students:
  - Clarification that policy does not prevent students from participating in independent study or undergraduate research, but does limit the number of credit hours that can be counted towards degree
  - Recognizing varied elective credit hours between disciplines, concern that a 9 credit hour maximum could adversely limit students whose degree program is structured with a large number of free electives/opportunities from the benefits of these learning experiences
  - Potential impact for students in the University Honors Program
  - Student Government Association and Honors Representatives will solicit input from their constituencies concerning the 9 credit hour maximum

Resolution 2015-2016.O has been forwarded to Faculty Senate for comment. Following the Faculty Senate review and response, the second reading of Resolution 2015-2016.O will take place at the next available CUSP meeting.

## **REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES/SUB -COMMITTEES**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Academic Support Committee**

No Report.

#### **Academic Policies Committee**

B. Watford reported that the Academic Policies Committee has been discussing the process of credentialing, as it relates to academic minors. The Academic Policies Committee hopes to discuss this issue at greater length at the next Commission meeting.

#### **Athletic Committee**

S. Sumner presented the minutes of the January 26, 2016 meeting of the University Athletic Committee. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the January 26, 2016 University Athletic Committee meeting. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Commencement Committee**

No Report.

**Honor System Review Board**

A. Myers-Burton reported that the Board of Visitors had approved the New University Honor Code at their quarterly meeting held March 20-21, 2016.

**Library Committee**

K. Gilbertson for M. Finn reported that the next meeting of the Library Committee is scheduled for March 29, 2016.

**Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

G. Chandler Smith announced for S. Martin that the report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting of February 12, 2016 was approved electronically on February 23, 2016. The motion was made and seconded to approve the February 12, 2016 Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**UCC Report – February 12, 2016**

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**COURSES**

**New:**

**Summer I 2016**

**College of Engineering**

**ENGE 1644 Global Engineering Practice: Leadership and Culture (CM-2423)**

**Summer II 2016**

**College of Engineering**

ENGE 1014 Engineering Success Seminar (CM-2424)

**Fall 2016**

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

AT 0724 Landscape Skills Practicum (CM-2523)

**Pamplin College of Business**

FIN 4214 Financial Modeling in Excel (CM-2533)

**College of Engineering**

NSEG 4424 Reactor Thermal Hydraulics (CM-2516)

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

HD 2014 Integrative Practices for Health, Wellbeing, and Resilience (CM-2514)

**College of Natural Resources and Environment**

FOR 4784 Wetland Hydrology and Biogeochemistry (CM-2413)

GEOG 1514 Introduction to Meteorology (CM-2508)

**College of Science**

GEOS 2024 Earth's Dynamic Systems (CM-2517)

**Revised:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

HNFE 4174 Nutrition and Physical Performance (CM-2524)

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

AHRM 3634 Developing and Managing Affordable and Specialized Housing  
(CM-2521)

**Discontinue:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Natural Resources and Environment**

GEOG 3114 Introduction to Meteorology (CM-2508)

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**DEGREES, MAJORS, MINORS, OPTIONS**

**Majors**

**Revised:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Natural Resources and Environment**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Biomaterials (BSSB); Major:  
Sustainable Biomaterials (SBIO) (CM-2510)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Water: Resources, Policy, and Management  
(BSWTR); Major: Water: Resources, Policy, and Management (WRPM)  
(CM-2511)

**Minors**

**Revised:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**Pamplin College of Business**

Checksheet: Minor in Professional Sales (PRFS) (CM-2498)



**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

Checksheet: Minor in Russian (RUS) (CM-2520)

**Discontinued:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2017**

**Pamplin College of Business**

Minor in Multicultural Diversity Management (MDM) (CM-2522). Last term and year to graduate: Fall 2017

**Options**

**New:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**Pamplin College of Business**

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Corporate Financial Management (FCFM). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2526).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Corporate Financial Management (FCFM) (CM-2526)

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Financial Accounting (FFAC). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2527).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Financial Accounting (FFAC) (CM-2527).

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Banking and Financial Institutions (FBFI). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2528).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Banking and Financial Institutions (FBFI) (CM-2528).

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Investment Management and Chartered Financial Analyst (FCFA). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2529).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Investment Management and Chartered Financial Analyst (FCFA) (CM-2529).

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Certified Financial Planner Certification Education (FCFP). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2530).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Business (BSBUS), Major: Finance (FIN), Option: Certified Financial Planner Certification Education (FCFP) (CM-2530).

### **Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

Establishment of a new option: Bachelor of Arts (BA), Major: Political Science (PSCI), Option: Political Theory (POLT). First effective date to declare option: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2513).

Checksheet: Bachelor of Arts (BA), Major: Political Science (PSCI), Option: Political Theory (POLT) (CM-2513).

G. Chandler Smith announced for S. Martin that the report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting of February 26, 2016 was approved electronically on March 3, 2016. The motion was made and seconded to approve the February 26, 2016 Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**UCC Report – February 26, 2016**

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**COURSES**

**New:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

HNFE 4645-4546 Applications in Nutrition Counseling (CM-2499)

**College of Engineering**

BMES 3124 Introduction to Biomechanics (CM-2455)

ECE 4525-4526 Video Game Design and Engineering (CM-2555)

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

HIST 3674 Topics in Chinese History (CM-2536)

MUS 3164 History of Electronic Music (CM-2535)

**Pamplin College of Business**

FIN 2114 Investments & Financial Literacy (CM-2532)

MGT 1104 Foundations of Business (CM-2633)

MGT 3014 Career Planning Strategy for Management Majors (CM-2531)

**Revised:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

COMM 3154 Multimedia Reporting (CM-2549)

COMM 3174 Advanced Multimedia Reporting (CM-2550)

COMM 4154 Digital Newsroom (CM-2551)

**Discontinue:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

HNFE 4134 Experiential Approach to Nutritional Therapy (CM-2499)

**Pamplin College of Business**

FIN 3304 Survey of Investments (CM-2532)

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**DEGREES, MAJORS, MINORS, OPTIONS**

**Majors**

**Revised:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (BSHRT), Major: Landscape Horticulture and Design (LCON) (CM-2509)

### **College of Engineering**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Aerospace and Ocean Engineering (BSAOE), Major: Aerospace Engineering (AE) (CM-2538)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Aerospace and Ocean Engineering (BSAOE), Major: Ocean Engineering (OE) (CM-2539)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE), Major: Civil Engineering (CE) (CM-2584)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics (BSESM), Major: Engineering Science and Mechanics (ESM) (CM-2542)

### **Options**

#### **Revised:**

### **Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

#### **College of Engineering**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics (BSESM), Major: Engineering Science and Mechanics (ESM), Option: Biomechanics (BMCH) (CM-2543)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics (BSESM), Major: Engineering Science and Mechanics (ESM), Option: Engineering Physics (EP) (CM-2552)

G. Chandler Smith announced for S. Martin that the report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting of March 4, 2016 was approved electronically on March 16, 2016. The motion was made and seconded to approve the March 4, 2016 Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**UCC Report – March 4, 2016**

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**COURSES**

**New:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

MUS 3045-3046 Advanced Ear Training (CM-2733)

**College of Science**

BIOL 4834 Practical Analysis of Protein Structure and Function (CM-2544)

**Revised:**

**Fall 2016**

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

MUS 3035-3036 Advanced Class Piano (CM-2732)

**FOR “FIRST AND SECOND READING”  
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL**

**DEGREES, MAJORS, MINORS, OPTIONS**

**Majors**

**New:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Science**

Establishment of New Major: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU)  
Major: Clinical Neuroscience (CNEU). First effective date to declare major:  
Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2678)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU) Major:  
Clinical Neuroscience (CNEU) (CM-2678)

Establishment of New Major: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU),  
Major: Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNU). First effective date to  
declare major: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018  
(CM-2679)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU),  
Major: Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNU) (CM-2679)

Establishment of New Major: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU),  
Major: Experimental Neuroscience (EXPN). First effective date to declare major:  
Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018 (CM-2680)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU), Major:  
Experimental Neuroscience (EXPN) (CM-2680)

Establishment of New Major: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU),  
Major: Computational and Systems Neuroscience (CSNU). First effective date to  
declare major: Spring 2016; First effective date to graduate: Spring 2018  
(CM-2682)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BSNEU), Major:  
Computational and Systems Neuroscience (CSNU) (CM-2682)

**Revised:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Engineering**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science (BS), Major: Computer Science (CS)  
(CM-2576)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (BSEE), Major:  
Electrical Engineering (EE) (CM-2553)

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering (BSCPE), Major:  
Computer Engineering (CPE) (CM-2554)

**College of Science**

Checksheet: Bachelor of Science (BS), Major: Statistics (STAT) (CM-2559)

**Minors**

**Revised:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Science**

Checksheet: Minor in Actuarial Science (ACSC) (CM-2558)

Checksheet: Minor in Statistics (STAT) (CM-2557)

**Options**

**Discontinue:**

**Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2018**

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Major: Music (MUS), Option/concentration: Designed-  
Professional (DOPR). Last term and year to graduate: Fall 2018 (CM-2734)



## **Undergraduate Studies and Policies**

No Report.

## **University Curriculum Committee for General Education**

J. Brozovsky presented the revised report of the May 6, 2015 meeting of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. The motion was made and seconded to approve the revised May 6, 2015 report of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Report (Revised)**  
**University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education**  
**May 6, 2015**

For Approval:

STS 3334: Energy and Society (Areas 3 & 7)

HIST 1515 and 1516: History of Africa (Areas 3 & 7)

RLCL/WGS/AFST 2204: Race and Gender in Religion and Culture (Areas 2 & 7)

J. Brozovsky presented the minutes of the March 2, 2016 meeting of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. The motion was made and seconded to accept the March 2, 2016 minutes of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. **The motion passed unanimously.**

J. Brozovsky presented the report of the March 2, 2016 meeting of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. The motion was made and seconded to approve the March 2, 2016 report of the University Curriculum Committee for General Education. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Report**  
**University Curriculum Committee for General Education**  
**March 2, 2016**

For Approval:

GEOG 1115: Seeking Sustainability (Areas 3 and 7), effective as of Fall 2016

## **CONSTITUENT REPORTS**

### **Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs**

No Report.

### **Staff Senate**

No Report.

### **Faculty Senate**

J. Baker reported that the Faculty Senate met on March 15, 2016. At this meeting, University Registrar R. Sparks addressed Faculty Senate's questions regarding the Change of Major Policy. J. Baker also reported that the Faculty Senate has discussed the creation of a new faculty category known as "collegiate professors."

### **Student Government Association**

C. Mitchell reported that the Student Government Association will be surveyed for their feedback on Resolution 2015-16.O prior to second reading of the resolution. C. Mitchell also reported that the Student Government Association has been working to establish a button/link to allow students to work between the Scholar and Canvas course management systems. The Student Government Association is also working to create a system for students to provide online feedback, using their Virginia Tech PID, on various issues impacting the student body.

### **Graduate Student Assembly**

No Report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin D. Sanders  
Office of the University Registrar