

Bachelor of Science in Liberal & Applied Studies Coordinating Committee

Report to Faculty Senate

April 2017

The BSLAS Coordinating Committee met six times in AY 2016-17: September 19th, October 17th, November 21st, February 6th, March 20th, and April 17th.

The committee revised the objectives, and outlined a way to assess the objectives:

BSLAS Proposed Objectives

A student completing a B.S.L.A.S. degree should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a general knowledge and appreciation of the achievements of the sciences and humanities.

Assessment: Gen Ed test

2. Show competence in the cognitive analysis of information including the identification of elements, analysis of relationships, and recognition of organizing principles.

Assessment: Gen Ed test

3. Form value judgments on ethical issues in the conduct of human related activities.

Assessment: Capstone

4. Manifest both written and oral communication skills in the presentation of complex topics, critical thinking, and problem solving.

Assessment: Capstone

5. Demonstrate the knowledge and understanding necessary for successful participation in society.

Assessment: Exit Survey

Assessment: Alumni Survey

In addition, the committee recommended a hybrid faculty line, with six hours dedicated to developing and teaching the BSLAS capstone course, and to manage assessment of the program. VP Dr. Bryon Clark determined the faculty member should be in the Department of English, Humanities and Languages. The job description:

Job Title: Temporary Full-Time Instructor/Bachelor of Science in Liberal & Applied Studies Coordinator.

Educational Requirement: Master's degree; college-level teaching experience preferred.

Description: Teaching Load: 15 hours/semester. The effective faculty member will teach nine-hours on courses in the Department of English, Humanities and Languages, and the equivalent of six-hours in the Bachelors of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Duties in the EH&L department will be mostly Freshman Composition, with occasional upper-level courses as need.

Duties in the BSLAS program will include:

- developing a 1 hour capstone course for the program;
- teaching the course, in 8 week sections; for approximately 35 to 40 students a semester;
- compiling assessment data in the form of an annual report;
- working as a liaison between the Director of the Academic Advising & Outreach Center and the Faculty Senate's Bachelor of Science's Liberal Arts & Sciences Coordinating Committee;
- advisement of BSLAS students in their senior year;
- summer duties will include work as the Coordinator (assessment and planning) and teaching an one-hour capstone class, at additional pay (adjunct pay + one-hour, accordingly).

Charges for next year: Develop capstone course, in conjunction with the coordinator, and create exit and alumni surveys.

Recommendation: Add the Dean of E-programming (Dr. Tim Boatmun) and the BSLAS Coordinator (Carolyn Fridley) as *ex officio* members of the committee.