

BSLAS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

October 12, 2018 (Approved at the November 9, 2018 meeting)

Meeting Notes

Morrison Hall 304

1:00 p.m.

Attending

Randy Prus, Chair

Lei Qian

John Mischo

Tim Sneed

Tristan Eggener

Charles Matthews

Carolyn Fridley, ex officio

Susan Hodson, ex officio

Not attending

Maribeth Nottingham

1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Randy Prus.
2. Elect Committee Chair. Randy Prus asked for nominations for a Committee Chair. Tristan Eggener nominated Randy Prus. Seconded by Charles Matthews. It was noted that Randy Prus is in his last year on the Committee, and he said he would call the first meeting of the 2019-2020 academic year although he would be rotating off the Committee. Unanimous vote to approve Randy Prus as Committee Chair for 2018-2019.
3. Find replacement for Tim Boatmun (ex-officio). For the benefit of the members absent at the September 14th meeting, Carolyn Fridley briefly explained the history of having a member of the Academic Advising & Outreach Center (AAOC) as an ex-officio member. Susan Hodson said she was willing to serve as an ex-officio member. Charles Matthews made the motion that a representative from the AAOC would serve as an ex-officio member, which was seconded by Tim Sneed. In the event that Susan Hodson is unavailable to attend a meeting, Marlin Blankenship would attend in her stead. The motion carried unanimously. Carolyn Fridley volunteered to notify the Faculty Senate that Tim Boatmun's name would be replaced with "A representative of the AAOC will serve as ex-officio member," and a term would not be specified.
4. Approval of minutes. Lei Qian made the motion to approve the minutes from April 12, 2018, seconded by Randy Prus. The motion passed: four (4) in favor, two (2) abstentions, none opposed. Charles Matthews motioned to approve the minutes from September 14, 2018, seconded by Tristan Eggener. The motion passed: four (4) in favor, one abstention, none opposed.
5. Review of Coordinator's job description.
 - Charles Matthews raised the question about where the position would be advertised: would it be sufficient to advertise only on the SE website? Higher Ed Jobs? *The Chronicle of Higher Education*? Charles Matthews offered to talk to Human Resources about their policy to advertise.
 - John Mischo noted that in the past, positions were advertised in local newspapers.
 - Randy Prus was asked if this position had been included in Dr. Bryon Clark's request for new EHL hires. Randy Prus answered in the affirmative.
 - Susan Hodson asked about the need for including the number of advisees and the number of students enrolled in the capstone course. It was suggested that the job description be amended to include this language: "Duties in the BSLAS program will include: teaching the capstone courses *as assigned by the department chair*" and "advisement of BLSAS students."

Tim Sneed moved to approve the job description as amended, which was seconded by Lei Qian. The motion passed unanimously.

The question of who should serve on the selection committee was raised: how many people should the committee include? Randy Prus suggested that the BSLAS Coordinating Committee consult with Mike Davis, Director of Compliance & Safety, invite him to attend the next meeting (November 9th), and postpone the selection committee decision until then.

6. Carolyn Fridley presented the Coordinator's Report:
 - Provided current numbers of BSLAS students (Durant & sites, enrolled Fall, 2018) and discussed the challenges of obtaining accurate numbers of BSLAS students (re-cap of September's report).
7. Other business.
 - Charles Matthews began a discussion about the suggested carousel for the course rotation of seven-week accelerated online courses, with specific reference to General Education Mathematics offerings. Charles Matthews said that STAT 2153 (Statistical Math) would be offered as a General Education course and asked who owns the suggested policy.
 - Tim Sneed noted that Dr. Bryon Clark distributed the suggested carousel.
 - Randy Prus said that he was not offering ENG 1113 in the 7-week format for the Spring because in his view, students taking ENG 1113 in the Spring are less likely to be successful.
 - It was suggested that the BSLAS Coordinating Committee review the suggested carousel and make revision recommendations at the November 9th meeting.
 - When asked where the suggested carousel could be found, Randy Prus said he would distribute it to the committee.
 - It was noted that several departments have created 7-week courses, and that some departments have been reluctant to do so. Charles Matthews said that when converting an 8-week online Mathematics course to a 7-week course, it has been his experience that approximately 20% fewer students have been successful. Eliminating one week, covering exactly the same material means that students have lost their weekends to the course.
 - The over-arching question is, has the change (from 8-week to 7-week) been successful? Would the answer be found in a D-F-W rate from Kristie Luke (Registrar)? Is it the work of this committee to review the successes and failures of the conversion from 8-week to 7-week format?
 - Carolyn Fridley will provide a BSLAS assessment report for the next meeting.
8. Randy Prus announced the next meeting date: November 9.
9. Adjourn. Charles Matthews motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tim Sneed. Motion passed unanimously at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Fridley