**Academic Programs Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**November 26, 2019**

**Voting members present:** Fabian Alfie, Wendy Davis, Brennen Feder, Melissa Goldsmith, Kelly Leslie, Todd Lutes, Anthony Sanchez, Suzie Weisband

**Non-voting members present:** Stephanie Carlson, Liz Sandoval

**Voting members absent:** Amy Kimme-Hea, Holly Nelson

1. Chair Fabian Alfie called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.
2. Approval of October 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

**A motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded and approved with seven in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. (One voting member arrived after this vote)**

1. Consent Agenda
   1. Pre-major creation: BS in Nutritional Sciences
   2. Disestablishment: Thematic Minor, Educational Technology Emphasis
   3. Modification: Public Relations Minor
   4. Modification:  BArch in Architecture
   5. Modification: Environmental Science Minor
   6. Modification: Soil and Water Science Minor
   7. Modifications: BS in Sustainable Plant Systems Core,  Controlled Environment Agriculture Emphasis, Fresh Produce Safety Emphasis, Agronomy Emphasis
   8. Ownership update: include Biosystems Engineering as co-owner of BS in Sustainable Plant Systems
   9. Ownership transfer: BS in Elementary Education from CAST to College of Education
   10. Modification: BS in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and BS in Biology Math Strand
   11. Modification: BS in Family Studies and Human Development

**A motion was made to approve the consent agenda, seconded, and approved with eight votes in favor.**

1. Action Items
2. **Emphasis Request: BA in Applied Humanities, Rural Leadership and Renewal Emphasis**, presented by Judd Ruggill and Matt Mars

This new emphasis is proposed as a partnership between Public and Applied Humanities and Agricultural Education, Technology, and Innovation. For a land grant institution in a rural state, a degree option in rural studies is an important factor and natural fit, and partnering was not only a good way to meet that need but also a unique approach. Leaders in this field will require cross-disciplinary training and a range of skills spanning the humanities, innovation, and entrepreneurial leadership, especially in the agricultural arena. This subject is a good fit with Applied Humanities, focusing on public service, outreach, and community engagement. In rural communities, agriculture often comes to mind, but other major issues in these communities are quality of life, retention, and a need for greater opportunity. This degree will train students to connect with and revitalize these communities.

Discussion:

* *What other similar programs are out there?* In land-grant universities, there are some programs in rural sociology, which tend to be in colleges of agriculture and associated with agricultural economics. There are a few rural education programs out there, often connected to agricultural education departments, that are more focused on people.

**A motion was made to approve the proposal, seconded, and approved with eight votes in favor.**

1. **Undergraduate Minor in Criminology**, presented by Dan Martinez and Erin Leahey

This minor is proposed by the School of Sociology, with support from SGPP, History, Latin American Studies, and Psychology. There is notable student demand for the minor, as documented through survey data in the proposal. The discipline of criminology focuses on the root causes of criminal and deviant behavior with special attention paid to the roles that various institutions and structural inequality play in criminal offending. It’s expected that the minor will complement rather than compete with existing Criminal Justice major in SGPP. Sociology is an ideal unit to house this minor, as some of the core faculty specialize in areas like criminology, social inequality, policing in society, sociology of law. No new courses need to be created to offer this minor; rather, this will draw on strengths of existing faculty and what they regularly teach. Creation of this minor will formalize what the School of Sociology has been doing, and provide additional service to other students in SBS and across campus.

Discussion:

* *Will students need to take research methods or data analysis?* The minor will not require a statistics or methods course, though students may get that through an internship or independent study used as elective credit, or possibly from their major.

**A motion was made to approve the proposal, seconded, and approved with eight votes in favor.**

1. **BS in Precision Nutrition and Wellness**

As there was no presenter in attendance, this proposal was tabled until the next meeting.

1. **Emphasis Request: BS in Sustainable Plant Systems, Urban Horticulture Emphasis**, presented by Matt Jenks

The Sustainable Plant Systems degree is undergoing some renovation, with changes to the core, adding the ownership of Biosystems Engineering, and now replacing the Environmental Horticulture emphasis with a new emphasis in Urban Horticulture. The Environmental Horticulture plan had become very similar to the Agronomy emphasis, as over the years courses were dropped with changes in faculty. This new emphasis will incorporate some coursework from the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning for a focus on sustainability and the rapidly growing green industry. The subplan will expand focus to include content most relevant for urban plant selection, landscape management, utilization, as well as urban horticultural production systems. The focus of this emphasis area will be on the use of plants and soil resources in residential and urban settings, in contrast to the current emphasis area in Environmental Horticulture that concentrates mainly on production horticulture.

**A motion was made to approve the proposal, seconded, and approved with eight votes in favor.**

1. **Emphasis Request: BS in Veterinary Sciences, Applied Animal Behavior Emphasis** (includes creation of General Emphasis), presented by Crista Coppola

The School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences is proposing this new emphasis, having noticed limited opportunity for students to receive education in animal behavior in veterinary school or in preparation for other careers working with animals. Skills in animal behavior are beneficial and increasingly sought after, not just for veterinarians but also for animal behaviorists, technicians and other animal allied careers, though programs in this course of study are quite rare. Students will get the educational perspective of practicing behaviorists, seeing the application of knowledge, not just theory. The new General emphasis will retain the existing curriculum of the major.

Discussion:

* *Is this emphasis viewed as a lead-in to graduate study?* Students are looking for this formalized program to show they have this education in animal behavior. Being able to show this could possibly help students get into graduate school, though this isn’t a primary focus. Arizona does not currently have an applied animal behavior graduate program; there are very few in the nation.
* *Would any additional library resources be required?* Most of the courses that will be in this emphasis are already being taught. So far, students have been able to complete their literature reviews without issue, and faculty have had their information needs met by the library when requested.
* *Are there field trips or observations included in the coursework?* Yes. One of the advanced courses includes 10-12 field trips where students observe professionals working with animal behavior. The newly proposed workshop course will create opportunities for students to apply what they’ve learned and observed in hands-on application.

**A motion was made to approve the proposal, seconded, and approved with eight votes in favor.**

1. Meeting Adjournment