

MINUTES
Undergraduate Council
November 4, 2021

The Undergraduate Council met in person and via video conference in Wingo Hall 315.

Members participating included: Patricia Poulter (NV), Kurt Boniecki (Chair), Terry Johnson, Bernard Chen, Shawn Charlton, Susan Perry, Alex Chen, Kristin Dooley, Suzanne Johnston, Jayme Millsap Stone, Brent Shires, Carl Frederickson, Ed Powers, Tom Snyder and Vicky Summers (NV).

Members absent: Janet Filer, Art Gillaspay, Aurora King, Alicia Landry, and Charles Wu

Guests: Jacob Held, Leslie Gomes, Jennifer Parrack, and Katelyn Knox

Dr. Boniecki called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Action Items:

1. Dr. Charlton, on behalf of subcommittee one, made a motion to recommend approval of a proposal from the Department of Student Transitions for new course ACAD 1180 Introduction to Community Engagement. Dr. Johnston seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

2. Dr. Powers, on behalf of subcommittee two, made a motion to recommend approval of a proposal from the Office of the Provost to remove the BS special degree requirement. Dr. Charlton seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Dr. Boniecki reiterated key points of the proposal and specifically emphasized that once the BS special degree requirement is removed students would need to complete six hours of general electives unless (1) the special degree requirement was already met by major requirements or (2) departments decide to replace the hours with additional major requirements through the normal curriculum process. However, departments are under no obligation to

BS special degree requirement. By moving it to the major as a related requirement, departments can propose changes through the normal curriculum review process. Some members raised a concern that, if departments choose to change the foreign language requirement, it might make it harder for students to change majors from one BA degree to another or double major within a BA degree. Dr. Boniecki warned against creating a precedent in which consistency across majors was a criterion for approving new curriculum changes. Members supporting the proposal mentioned that programs do not have to change and that if departments don't do anything, the foreign language requirement remains. Under the current proposal, every single Academic Map for the BA degree will stay the same.