Graduate Studies, Recruitment, Admissions & Financial Aid Committee

Meeting 5 Minutes | December 10, 2020 | 1 - 3pm | Zoom

* **Members Present:** Hannah Schertz (chair), Ellen Vaughan, Kyungbin Kwon, Marjorie Manifold, Danielle DeSawal, Stephen Hiller, Lucinda Carspecken,
* **Members Absent:** Vic Borden, Leslie Chrapliwy
* **Presenters:** Carmen Medina, Leslie Rutkowski, Kelly Williams, Krista Glazewski, Jessica Lester
* **Ex-officio Present:** Sarah Lubienski
* **Staff:** Matt Boots, Kirstin Helström

# Voting Items

* 1. Review of GSC Minutes
     + Kyungbin and Stephen moved to approve the minutes.
     + All in favor.
  2. Certificate in Teaching Children’s and Young Adult Literature (Online)- Carmen Medina

*Sarah prefaced the certificate presentations, noting that these were coming through together as part of Dean Morrone’s special call for certificates. Chris Foley has said that they do not need to be collaborative programs.*

The Children’s and Young Adult Literature certificate previously existed as an in-person program, but due to its low enrollment and simultaneous increase in the online EdD program, this certificate was set aside. Now that the EdD program has stabilized, LCLE faculty support the re-implementation of this certificate as an online program, which EdD students have been requesting. The program title change is to avoid confusion or conflict with the English department’s offerings. Carmen added that similar programs across the nation have a very national focus, while this certificate deals with national and international interests, which help to distinguish this program.

* Matt asked if LCLE plans to reinstate the in-person program as well, but Carmen responded that the plans are to only offer the online version for the foreseeable future.
* Sarah mentioned that that some of the descriptions on the Board of Trustees cover sheet mentioned a researcher rather than practitioner focus, which did not seem to fit with the general description of the certificate. Carmen responded that she would adjust that language, as it likely originated from the in-person version of the certificate but should be removed to more accurately reflect the predominantly EdD student population LCLE anticipates in this certificate program.
* Sarah also suggested rewording the section of “opportunities for degree recipients,” as it was not clear how students would earn more money from obtaining this certificate. Hannah suggested added that the credential would make recipients “more attractive for hiring,” and Carmen supported that language.
* Sarah asked about the extent to which these classes are taught already. Carmen mentioned that some of these courses have been taught as a special topics seminar until the department received approval to teach them as regularly recurring courses. LCLE anticipates the EdD students filling these courses.
  + Ellen moved to accept the certificate with the above language adjustments.
  + Stephen seconded.
  + All (7) in favor.
  1. Online Certificate in Quantitative Research Methods- Leslie Rutkowski

Leslie mentioned that all inquiry quantitative faculty support teaching these courses online and every year or every other year on a rotating basis. The basic schedule allows students to start either in fall or summer and be able to take a different course each semester if they wanted to take only one and be finished in four semesters. Student could also finish in few semesters depending on their enrollment. This program anticipates drawing non-majors both within and outside the School.

* Hannah asked if a current doctoral student minoring in quantitative measurement could also apply for this certificate. Leslie confirmed that from the program and departmental perspectives, it is doable; Matt confirmed that the GSO would also not have any issue with it, and UGS has not taken issue with counting courses from certificates in other programs.
* Kyungbin asked how the program would deal with enrollment in Y502 as a required course in the School that often fills up. Leslie recommends that students be encouraged to get on the waiting list, as course caps and/or additional sections can be opened up if need be.
* Sarah asked about the schedule to offer courses every other year, especially regarding international students who have to be very strategic about their online course enrollments. Since these course offerings would replace in-person versions of these courses, some international students majoring in quantitative inquiry would need to wait for in-person versions of these courses to be taught to protect their visa status. Sarah recommended making the schedule of upcoming courses available, so students could plan accordingly. Leslie confirmed that the plan is to have a live google doc with four-year projections listed, linked to the inquiry program website for public view.
  + Kyungbin moved to accept the certificate.
  + Marjorie seconded.
  + All (7) in favor.
  1. Online Certificate in Assessment and Evaluation- Leslie Rutkowski

About three years ago, Leslie and David Rutkowski drafted an assessment literacy program for educators around Indiana, which essentially would serve as accountability testing training for educators, helping them to interpret data and push back against misuse in their contexts. Because most Indiana teachers do not have experience in this area, a corporation test coordinator typically handles these issues. This certificate program will target those corporation test coordinators and others in industry or education.

* Vic raised a concern asynchronously about this certificate’s overlap/conflation with HESA’s higher education assessment focus. He recommended that this certificate be more focused to K-12 assessment or clarified in some way.
* Sarah noted that the Improvement Science Certificate may be related as well, and that focuses on K-12, with an eye toward school leaders.
* Leslie responded that this certificate is not specific to K-12, and that these principles are more general applicable across K-12, higher education, and industry contexts.
* Stephen recommended a title adjustment for clarification, “Certificate in Assessment and Evaluation Methods,” which Leslie supported.
  + Stephen moved to accept the certificate with the title adjustment.
  + Ellen seconded.
  + All (7) in favor.
  1. Online Teaching and Learning Practices- Krista Glazewski

This certificate addresses the critical need for online teaching and learning currently associated with Covid-19 pressures, but also what IST expects to be a sustained interest. This certificate will be co- offered through IST and Learning Sciences (but housed in IST for logistical ease).

* Sarah asked if any of these required courses are taught regularly already. Krista responded that two of the required courses are taught regularly, and the others are in a rotation. There is a standard pathway that is recommended; the other pathways offer different interests, but if those courses were not offered in a sequence accessible to a student before graduation, the program would use other appropriate School courses as substitutions.
* Danielle asked how much of the current course content actually focuses on online teaching and learning practices, or if courses would need to be substantially adjusted for this certificate program. Krista responded that the two main required courses do not focus specifically on online teaching, but students can apply content learned to online teaching. IST plans to revise the courses to include more content specific to online teaching.
  + Lucy moved to accept the certificate.
  + Kyungbin seconded.
  + All (7) in favor.
  1. Dyslexia Online Graduate Certificate- Kelly Williams

This certificate is co-offered by LCLE and Special Education faculty, as an online certificate to train educators in identification, assessment, and interventions for students with dyslexia. The rationale for this new online graduate certificate is that, in 2018, the state of Indiana mandated that each school corporation in the state have at least one authorized reading specialist with training in dyslexia, and the faculty would like for this graduate certificate to be on the state’s approved list of authorized dyslexia training programs. Kelly added that there may be some changes in the legislation coming that require all teachers to have dyslexia training, and this certificate program would provide us a unique opportunity to meet that need throughout the state.

* Sarah confirmed we could offer a 9 credit hour certificate and if this is approved we would submit an overall update to the minimum certificate hours in the Bulletin.
* Matt added that because this certificate is lower than the standard 12 hours it would be limited to only 4 transfer hours instead of 6, and added a proposal to update the transfer hours in the Bulletin would be forthcoming pending the certificates approval.
  + Stephen moved to accept the certificate.
  + Danielle seconded.
  + All (7) in favor.
  1. Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research- Jessica Lester

This certificate is aimed at a more applied audience, with the intent being to inch out two primary competitors who tend offer courses not targeting research industry professionals. There has been interest in this certificate being developed, and one big research firm has reached out again asking when it will be approved.

Sarah explained that Jessica proposed the certificate over a year ago, and at that time OCAP required it to be collaborative. However, OCAP has now allowed us to take the certificate out of the collaborative process and include it with this group of SoE certificates. Last year it was approved by the CEP department as a 15-credit certificate, but to improve marketability one course was removed from this version. A CEP vote is being taken on this 12-credit version of the certificate. GSC approval will be contingent upon CEP approval.

* + - Ellen moved to accept the certificate (pending CEP approval).
    - Kyungbin seconded.
    - All (7) in favor.
  1. Courses

Krista explained that these courses, as listed in the bulletin were out of date, so these updates are to reflect actual practice. Matt noted that reducing the repeatability of “99 times” is good, as this seems to have been a default in the past, but it does not make sense.

1. R685- Krista Glazewski
   * Marjorie moved to accept the course.
   * Stephen seconded.
   * All (7) in favor.
2. R686- Krista Glazewski
   * Marjorie moved to accept the course.
   * Lucy seconded.
   * All (7) in favor.

# Information Item

* 1. IST Review Presentation- Kyungbin Kwon

Kyungbin will bring the full report and presentation in the January GSC session, which will allow for IST to first discuss the findings at the department retreat in December.

# Discussion Items

* 1. IRB policy discussion

Sarah followed up with Andrew Neel from the IU Human Subjects office on two issues raised in last month’s discussion of IRB policies 18.17 and 18.18, as part of the DEI policy review. First, Andrew confirmed that it is OK for faculty to determine if students should send research designs through IRB, but emphasized that they should reach out to the Human Subjects office if there is any uncertainty.

Second, regarding the language of “human subjects” vs “human participants,” the IRB office understands that the current language is dated, but it is still used in federal regulations. Andrew cautioned that the term “human participants” could lead researchers to assume that all secondary data analyses do not need IRB approval, as humans are not actively participating in their research.

Sarah concluded that our current policies seem to be aligned with IRB office requirements, and that office is aware of trends toward the term “human participants” in the field. Sarah noted that our dissertation proposal form already states that if there is any doubt, the human subjects office should be consulted. GSC members agreed that no changes seem necessary in the IRB policies at this time.

The committee then briefly reviewed the spreadsheet they used to flag concerns about policies meriting discussion in relation to DEI issues. Members agreed that the policies with the most substantial concerns have now been discussed by the GSC.