

Undergraduate Research Curriculum Committee

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Meeting Minutes

WebEx Meeting 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Attendees

Members present: F. Bloetscher, E. Williams, E. Bennett, M. DeDonno, E. Duboue, C. Krause-Parello, M. Cooley, D. Mitsova, T. Hindle and D. Chamely-Wiik

Others present: P. Sampedro and Pierre Alexandre

DCW. Welcome Dr. Alexandre and proceed to request approval for 4/14/22 meeting minutes

I. Approve April 14, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

Motion approved by E. Williams and D. Mitsova

II. Course submitted for RI Designation:

BUS - HAS 4817 RI: Health Practicum – P. Alexandre

P.A. Explained to the committee the nature of the course, as a practice 6 credits course that students have to take before graduation, is an internship, students spend 144 hours in the facility additionally meet in class once a week to discuss the cases.

1. Students first project is to identify the facility
2. SWOT analysis, to identify the problem and meet with facility supervisor
3. Lit review to answer questions about the problem
4. Submit a small proposal on how they are going to collect data to solve the problem
5. Final project with things that they are going to implement to solve the problem
6. Power point presentation

Students and faculty meet in zoom to discuss current materials in South Florida Hospitals

DCW. Excellent, very clear presentation. Let the members know that as it applies for RI designation, this course came with a motion to approve

M. DeDonno – Can you give as an example of a project?

P.A. yes, after the hurricane, there were new laws that would affect nursing home clients One of the projects that the students did was the impact that these laws will have when it comes to managing nursing homes, and the different scenarios to what may happen to medium nursing home business

Other project that a student did on a small dental clinic, he wanted to reduce waiting time, student recommended to maintain some electronic health records to reduce the time frame.

E. Duboue – Is this a one or two semesters course?

P.A. -Is a one semester course and they cannot take any other class without my permission

How do students find or get paired with a facility?

P.A. I have a list of facilities that had been taken my students. One of the student's jobs is to find the facility, I gave them the list as a courtesy

DCW. Ask about the ethical learning outcome of the course.

This is something that they are familiar with, specially because they have to deal with patients and have to know all of the file of financial confidentiality issues, also they will have to get permission from the patient and be familiar with the patient protection laws.

D. Meeroff – A question for Donna, the course is listed as an internship that has no bearing in al on designation, right?

DCW- the prefix says what it is, and the number is 4817

Follow up question, are there 2 sections of this course, or is there only one?

P.A. – Only one section that I teach, but other faculty that teach the same class already agreed to use the RI designation syllabus

DCW. We will assume that this course will be teach only as RI

D. Meeroff – Is this a required course that everybody must take?

Yes, all undergraduates regardless of their experience.

DCW. This means that if this course is approved as RI designated, many if not all your students can apply for the UG research Certificate. She will forward PA some information.

E. Williams will present this course to UUPC

DCW. Once the course gets approve through all the different channels, Patricia or I will keep you updated.

Motion to approved by D. Mitsova, C. Krause Parello, E. Williams, all in favor

III. Undergraduate Research Certificate Last Academic year updates

1. DCW. During Fall 21 and Spring 22, 14 Undergraduate Research certificates were awarded
2. Summer 22 - Petitions for waiver/substitution approved by email
 - SCI-Wayne Robinson – URCC email approval 8/3/2022
 - SCI-Cheyenne Durham - URCC email approval 8/8/2022

DCW. Thanked the liaisons for their flexibility and willingness to work beyond the 9 months.

IV. UG Research Certificate petitions for waiver/substitution:

DCW. We have two petitions from the college of SCI. that were previously sent to the college Liaisons/URCC members.

1. SCI - Daniel Zweben – Requesting to waive IDS 4914, he presented at the Spring 22 UGR Symposium. We already verified that he presented at the symposium
OURI is having difficulties getting students to follow instructions. Daniel forgot to sign up for IDS4914 the zero-credit dissemination requirement of the certificate
Motion to approved D. Mitsova and C. Krause-Parello

2. SCI - Abel Abraham - Requesting to substitute 2 credits of EML 4905 DIS to be counted under RI/DIR section of the certificate

DCW – Abel is a student at the college of SCI who conducted research with Dr. Kim of ENG-OME. Dr. Kim sent us a letter of support certifying that this is a DIR course.

Abel is requesting to have the two credits of ENG DIS count as the RI/DIR requirement of the UG Research certificate. Abel got an UG Research Grant affiliated with the research that he did in this ENG course

He is only one credit short on the RI/DIR requirements

D. Meeroff – This is the second time that this is happening in ENG, previously happened with my class. Hopefully Fred can fix this moving forward.

F. Bloetscher – There is a problem with the registration, we have to make sure that advisors understand that. He made a motion to support the student, because this is an error that ENG is trying to fix.

E. Duboue – What is the difference between DIS and DIR?

DCW explained that before 2015, DIS was used for everything. If a student who needed a credit and find a faculty willing to sign will do a DIS, any faculty member who wants to do a seminar use DIS as a credit.

In 2015 this committee decided to create a separated numeric system called DIR. Since then we have been trying to onboard colleges and departments to please use DIR.

Liaisons continue working trying to sell the idea to faculty if the student is doing research, sign the student up for DIR.

D. Meeroff – ENG was the first college to entertain the idea of DIR but it was voted down by faculty, until this past fall that got approved at college level.

ENG have to understand that when is a research course they have to use DIR, for any other stuff use DIS. Fred will continue working to solve this problem

DCW explained to Eric the one of the functions of the faculty Liaisons is to identify challenges and try to fix them or request college help to do it.

Motion to approved: F. Bloetscher and E. Williams.

V. Undergraduate Research Certificate updates:

a. Inclusion of additional language to the Catalogue on the Dissemination criteria for the Research Certificate.

Presentation at one of the FAU Undergraduate Research Symposia (Boca Raton, Broward, and Jupiter), Senior Engineering Design Showcase or appropriate discipline-specific conferences, symposia, exhibitions, or showcases (internal or external), as approved by the University's Undergraduate Research Curriculum Committee. For internal symposia, students register for a zero-credit course: IDS 4914, Undergraduate Research Forum. [For Senior Engineering Design Showcase, students will receive credit for the Dissemination presentation upon successful completion of one of the following courses: CGN 4804C, EGN 4952 C, EOC 4804 L, or EML 4551 with a grade of "C" or better.](#)

DCW – When we proposed the UG Research Certificate, within the time frame that we did, we included on as college symposium, Boca, Broward, and Jupiter. Last semester ENG requested to include and approve the Senior Engineering Design Showcase as an appropriate conference for the credits of the dissemination affiliated with the UG Research Certificate.

Brian Hodge is asking us to add some language to the catalog, because Senior Eng. Design Showcase is affiliated to students taking 1 of these 4 courses, and if they register for one of these courses one of the requirements is to present at the SEDS, fall, spring or summer when they offer them. Adding the language into the catalog, this way students who take one of these courses will get credit for the dissemination requirement of the certificate and will not have to sign for the IDS "0" credit course

Motion to approved: D. Mitsova and E. Williams

b. Updates on UG Research Certificate credit distribution meeting

- Alternate credit options:
Exposure: 3-6 credits
Skill building: 3-6 credits
Intensive: minimum of 3 credits

DCW. Went back to the subcommittee who proposed the original breakdown of the credits and asked them what was the logic of this breakdown on the first place? D. Meeroff reminded her that RI designated courses are institutionally approved and skill building courses not. We do not have a mechanism to evaluate skill building courses and many of those courses are not required. She proposed to keep the credit distribution as it is.

Committee members discussed the pros and cons of changing the credit distribution for skill building/exposure courses and decided to keep them as they are and look for exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

Motion to approved: E. Williams and E. Duboue

DCW gave information about the launching of the Faculty Incentive Plan

Main priority is UG research in the curriculum in the lower division courses, for the following reasons

- Expose and engage students in UG Research early on in their academic career
- International evidence that positive improves retention and persistence

Second:

- Pipelining more information about the certificate and have people exited and interested in applying

Because priority one involves the curriculum, she shared with committee members, the three curricula incentives that the liaisons are proposing:

- a. Courses with a cap of about 50 students within the lower division
Smaller college as NUR, EDU, SW&CJ could benefit for those small cap ISP courses
- b. Large lecture classes that would required a special kind of faculty who are willing to bring RI into a class of more than 50
Selected faculty will received \$3,500.00 incentive
- c. Large lecture classes most on SCI, this will be a new group of faculty members teaching large lecture, ISP or lower division classes that wanted to create a subset of those students who wanted to complete a research compact which has already been approved as RI designation.

Those students should get the Ri designation for the main course by taking the compact that allows intensive level research in a non – RI course

We are going to be piloting that on the spring of this upcoming year working with the Registrar's office.

Liaisons will be setting up a subcommittee to provide guidance to this committee before anything being launched in the spring. We will have two URCC members (F. Bloetscher and E. Bennett) as the new liaison subcommittee members that can talk on behalf of this committee.

Hopefully for next meeting we will have guidelines established, so this committee can vote.

E. Williams are you going to learn from the Honors counsel how they handle the compacts?

DCW – the way they handle it, is not efficient. We are proposing a “0” credit DIR linked to a non-RI course and the students can get permission from the instructor to enrolled and then the faculty evaluates them.

She discussed with Brian Hodge; he likes the idea but has to think a little more about it.

We will recruit faculty this fall, and we will sign them up in the spring and give them money to test this out as part of the Faculty Incentive Plan.

E. Williams – once the compact is approve, then people can add it to their courses?

DCW – yes, have several courses that potential compacts can be added.

E. Williams. Are this courses instructor dependence?

DCW - Right there is an honor code there, that is what we asked if all sections will be covered.

The faculty teaching the course could be the Research compact faculty or could be a research active faculty who is collaborating. Our intent is to be flexible having research active faculty, being paired with non-research active faculty, or research active faculty who want to test something out in a smaller scale before they amp I up to the full extent of it

We are hoping for a formal proposal on how we think we can make it works, that we will sharing with you.

Meeting adjourned 1:24 pm.