

District Academic Standards Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 5, 2022

3:00-4:00pm

CAADO 209/Zoom

Committee Members	Guests
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Johnson (DCC Chair, MAT, NOR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryan Nicol (Staff, RCCD)
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeannie Kim (DCC Co-Chair, VC Ed Services)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sabina Fernandez (Staff, MVC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Douglass (ENG, RCC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casandra Greene (Staff, RCC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Pfeifle (HIS, MOV)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Brown (Staff, NOR)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen Brown-Drinkwater (AO, RCC)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Franco (AO, NOR)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeanne Howard (AO, MVC)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clara Lowden (KIN, RIV)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Martin (GUI, NOR)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Sinigaglia (PHI, MOV)	
Additional Guests: Lijuan Zhai	

Zoom Information

<https://rccd-edu.zoom.us/j/97515279428?pwd=cmRlVDVEd1JUNGUwN3dXeUNZY0dNdz09>

+1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 975 1527 9428

Passcode: 479473

Discussion Items

1. Ethnic Studies Title 5 Changes – Still awaiting final guidance.
2. HR and FSA Process for New Disciplines – Ann Pfeifle
 - a. Spoke with Silvester Julienne, HR Liaison, who is having a number of faculty applying for FSAs in disciplines the district does not yet have and also applying for FSAs in areas where we would need to have an equivalency. How do we address this? What guidance can we provide to staff?
 - b. Brian Johnson – Do we have a policy already regarding FSAs for existing disciplines? Do we have a policy already set for who sits on equivalency committees, how many people are on the committee, etc.?
 - c. Ann Pfeifle – There may be a policy for disciplines we already have, but it is an equivalency for disciplines we do not have that candidates are requesting. The easiest road may be to respond with no, we do not yet have an equivalency, so it does not make sense to apply for the FSA. It becomes a problem, particularly with Interdisciplinary Studies, when we have disciplines that are recognized, but we do not have people in those disciplines.
 - d. Brian Johnson – How many people are asked to be on equivalency committees?

Do we need to make up a new committee for new disciplines? If we don't have someone with expertise already, not sure what we can do.

- e. Nick Sinigaglia – The discipline facilitator is supposed to be on the committee, and they select two additional people from the discipline. Are we under pressure to get these FSAs authorized? We have full time hires in process for Ethnic Studies, for example. If we can wait until those people are in place, we can make the committee with those faculty members.
- f. Kelly Douglass – For Women's Studies, we do not have a discipline yet, but we do have faculty with degrees in Women's Studies. Advice at the time was to start the process to create the discipline. You could have a cross discipline of English, History, and other disciplines that would constitute an equivalency for Women's Studies. Do we ask faculty to ask for the FSA when it does not yet exist? Perhaps not, but faculty can create the discipline and find a department for the discipline at the college, and the discipline could be built out over time.
 - i. If someone wants the FSA in a discipline that doesn't exist, is the answer no?
 - ii. How is a discipline created when no one has the FSA?
- g. Ann Pfeifle – Silvester's concern is if someone requests and FSA and they start teaching classes in that area. Another concern is if they were hired for one area but they are now teaching in another area. This wouldn't be this committee's concern, but would be a dean or department chair responsibility.
- h. Kelly Douglass – Yes, but to assist deans, adopting the discipline and putting it into a department would allow for some control over whether faculty are teaching in that discipline when they were hired for something else.
- i. Brian Johnson – So the discipline would be created, but courses wouldn't be offered? It would just be informational for HR?
 - i. Kelly Douglass – The discipline would exist, and faculty could get the FSA in it, but then we would have courses that would be cross-disciplined. You can't adopt a discipline without a department identified that will house it.
- j. Brian Johnson – Would we have to show the discipline in Meta? The catalog?
 - i. Kelly Douglass – We could show the discipline Meta, but wouldn't have to show in the catalog until we have classes.
- k. Brian Johnson – Which disciplines would we allow?
 - i. Kelly Douglass – It would have to be in the minimum qualifications handbook.
- l. Kelly Douglass – What guidance do we provide to HR?
 - i. Ann Pfeifle – Should draft an e-mail that goes to HR to see if the above guidance is sufficient. If we don't have a discipline, faculty are encouraged to create it. If we have a discipline that clearly exists, we can provide FSA and minimum qualifications information.
- m. Nick Sinigaglia – We're allowed to have a course in Meta that is cross disciplined?
 - i. Kelly Douglass – Yes, as long as the faculty who wrote and own the course agree. It is rare, but we have a few situations in English for the

- support course that has a cross discipline with ESL and ALR.
- ii. Ann Pfeifle – Cross discipline also protects the original discipline, as there are some courses that should only be taught by faculty with FSAs in that specific discipline.
 - iii. Brian Johnson – If it is crosslisted, both disciplines can schedule their own courses however they want.
- n. Brian Johnson – Can see this working with disciplines that are specifically listed in the minimum quals, but aren't the problem disciplines those that fall into the interdisciplinary category?
- i. Ann Pfeifle – Social Justice Studies does not exist in the minimum qualifications handbook, and that is a challenge. There's also the example in History. It is unusual in History for someone to have a degree in World History, but you can get a degree where you study Africa, Asia, and Europe and you are therefore qualified to do a World History course.
- o. Kelly Douglass – The problem Silvester asked us to solve how to evaluate for an FSA for a discipline that doesn't exist. The other issue for interdisciplinary fields, that is Silvester's area. Will tell HR that if the discipline does not exist in our catalog, HR cannot evaluate the faculty for the FSA, but the faculty can create the discipline using the minimum quals and our process.
- p. Bryan Nicol – Can faculty create discipline and courses at the same time?
- i. Kelly – No, the discipline has to be created first and the evaluation of the proposer and their FSA equivalency can happen at the same time. We may need to update the new discipline form.
- q. Bryan Nicol – When do we add the discipline into Colleague? After it has been Board approved?
- i. Kelly Douglass – There may be technical issues that still need to be addressed. This committee offers the faculty perspective. Will invite Silvester to the next Standards meeting.
3. Translation Services in Student Work – Kelly Douglass
- a. English and Media Studies Department Chair at Riverside asked if District Academic Standards could consider a question regarding translation services.
 - b. ESL faculty brought to the department a concern regarding students using translation software in their ESL classes. ESL classes are for students who are learning English as a second language, but they discovered students are using translation services to write entire papers.
 - c. In ESL, they have a clear direction that this is not appropriate and they are trying to figure out how to deal with this issue and how to communicate this issue out across the district. ESL faculty wanted to alert the department, but also to think about theoretical questions: Is this plagiarism? Should it be dealt with punitively? Should it be dealt with as a teaching moment? How do disciplines create language around this?
 - d. In an English composition class, this could be an example of the student not showing their command of sentence structure. But in a literature class, there could be room for more leeway.

- e. The question from the Department Chair was for Academic Standards not to create any policy, but to potentially spearhead discussion across the colleges. Is there a lesser non-policy driven conversation that Standards could have and guide Senates towards? Is this something of interest and in the purview of this committee? How would the committee go about this?
- f. Nick Franco – This could potentially fit under the existing Academic Dishonesty policy, but the disciplines may have differing views of what they consider cheating.
- g. Brian Johnson – We could develop a very general statement, but it will probably turn out to be very similar to what already exists in the catalog.
- h. Ann Pfeifle – This is really up to the disciplines, and we could encourage disciplines to make a statement about their policy.
- i. Kelly Douglass – A statement from this committee could give disciplines that need an enforcement tool something to do that, but would allow for disciplines who do not need an enforcement tool the freedom to not use it.
- j. Kelly Douglass – Do we report to our respective Senates that the topic has come up, but we encourage the disciplines to research what is happening in the field and develop their own position?
- k. Ann Pfeifle – And encourage them to consider reviewing their courses and to develop a policy based on their courses. It will differ based on the discipline. We may not be able to make a standard decision.
- l. Nick Franco – The Academic Dishonesty Policy discusses “unauthorized study aids,” which is relative to each discipline/classes within a discipline. If you have a policy against their use it should definitely go in the syllabus.