

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The College of Arts & Sciences requests approval to establish a UW Collaborative Online Associate of Arts and Sciences degree. Because of the restructuring of UW Colleges and UW-Extension, the fully online AAS degree offered by UW Colleges Online was eliminated effective July 1, 2018. At that time, UW Extended Campus (previously referred to as UW-Extension Continuing Education, Outreach and E-Learning) was charged by UW System with working with interested UW campuses in the development of a new collaborative online Associates degree for introduction in fall 2020. Following a solicitation to campuses, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Parkside, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Whitewater committed to move forward in the formal development and delivery of the degree. Initial and overarching goals of the new degree program included a continued focus on expanding access to higher education and improving transfer of credits between institutions.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Additional faculty needed to deliver UWEC six courses in the collaborative model (UWEC-BC resources will be used).
2. Additional library resources needed to deliver the distance learning experiences associated with degree completion.
3. Administration designee for the delivery of the degree.
4. What role do institutional faculty and staff play course development and learning outcomes.
5. The institution's financial risks and/or benefits.
6. The courses that were selected to make-up the initial curriculum for the degree.
7. Which students would be allowed to take courses provided by this program.
8. Course fee structure of program offerings from various institutions.
9. Where is the process at other institutions?

Pros of Recommendation:

The proposed collaborative online Associate of Arts and Sciences degree serves as the foundational degree for bachelor's programs offered within and outside of the University of Wisconsin System. One of the many recognized and significant benefits of the collaborative program model is the extended reach or scope of contacts provided through the involvement of multiple academic partners located within unique markets throughout the state. Possible financial incentives for participating institutions.

Cons of Recommendation:

none

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

Unclear of impact on library resources

Committee Recommendation:

The committee approved the creation of a 43-credit UW Collaborative Online Associate of Arts and Sciences degree.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of 3 for to 1 against on November 19, 2019 (Date)

Recommends that:

The creation of a 43-credit major in UW Collaborative Online Associate of Arts and Sciences degree starting 2020-2021 AY:

Implementation Date: 20/21 catalog

Signed: _____
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office