

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MEETING of May 5, 2014
McKenna Auditorium
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Members present: Panos Antsaklis, Christine Becker, Cindy Bergeman, Robert Bernhard, Kathryn Boehlefeld, James Brockmole, Thomas Burish, Laura Carlson, Greg Crawford, Michael Desch, Margaret Doody, Dennis Doordan, Kevin Dreyer, Nick Entrikin, Michael Ferdig, John Gaski, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Roger Huang, Rev. John Jenkins, C.S.C., Jeff Kantor, Peter Kilpatrick, Marya Lieberman, Michael Lykoudis, Chris Maziar, John McGreevy, Elizabeth Moore, Dan Myers, Hugh Page, Cathy Pieronek, Thomas Pratt, Ava Preacher, Jeff Schorey, Cheri Smith, Alex Taylor, Alain Toumayan

Members absent: John Affleck-Graves, Maxwell Brown, Matthew Capdevielle, Donald Crafton, Erin Hoffmann Harding, Catherine Kromkowski, Jose Limon, Paul McGinn, Nell Newton, Robert Norton, Maria Rosa Olivera-Williams, Ramachandran Ramanan, Antonio Schreier, Joshua Shrout, Casey Skevington, Carter Snead, Diane Parr Walker

Observers present: Kevin Barry, Tricia Bellia, Mary Hendriksen, Kasey Buckles, Earl Carter, Chuck Hurley, Dale Nees, Frank Rossi, Michael Ryan

Guests: Tracey Thomas, recorder

1. Welcome and opening prayer:

Father Jenkins opened the meeting at 3:30 p.m., welcoming members, and invited Cheri Smith to offer the opening prayer.

2. Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the April 14, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

3. Proposal for a Master's of Science in Historic Preservation

Presenters: Dean Michael Lykoudis, Prof. Dennis Doordan, Prof. John Stamper

Prof. Michael Lykoudis presented the proposal for a Master's of Science in Historic Preservation. Prof. Lykoudis noted the two objectives of the program:(1) to prepare its graduates for leadership positions in the fields of architectural design, preservation, consulting, and heritage advocacy; and (2) to bring the School of Architecture's already recognized programs in traditional architecture and urbanism into greater alignment with emerging trends in the profession.

The school has already "test-driven" a concentration in historic preservation at the undergraduate level. While the graduate courses will have higher intellectual content, it is significant that courses of this type are already in place.

The new program would fill a void in the current spectrum of historic preservation programs around the country. With its efforts in classical and traditional architecture, it will present an alternate and complementary view of current historic preservation that will enliven the dialogue in the field. The new program also fills a gap within the school's pedagogy in an area that represents more than half the billings of architectural offices nationwide.

The School of Architecture is well positioned; there will be minimal impact on the school's current needs and resources. The faculty expertise is already present. The additional courses needed can be easily undertaken by adjunct and/or visiting faculty; the same is true for voids which occur if faculty leave the Architectural program to teach in the historic preservation program.

It is expected that the program would begin with a small class of about 5 to 10 students, growing to a total of about 10-20 students. If approved, the school would begin to advertise the program in the academic year 2014-2015; the first admitted class would enter in Fall 2015.

Prof. John Stamper reviewed the document describing the curriculum. Prof. Lykoudis then noted that the proposal had been reviewed by the Faculty Senate and had gained the approval of the Academic Council's Advanced Studies Committee and Executive Committee.

Prof. Margaret Doody asked Prof. Lykoudis to more fully describe how he intends to involve adjuncts and/or visiting faculty in the program. He explained that qualified adjuncts are readily available locally. Indiana has a very strong preservation practice, and practitioners have been hired in the past. In addition, the proximity of Chicago ensures talented instructors. More broadly, visitors from around the world—Rome, in particular—will be invited to teach in the program.

Fr. Jenkins called for a vote on the master's of architecture in historic preservation. The program was approved unanimously.

4. Proposal for a new major in Neuroscience and Behavior

Presenters: Prof. Sunny Boyd and Prof. Daniel Lapsley

Prof. Daniel Lapsley began the presentation for the proposed new major in Neuroscience and Behavior. The major was proposed by the departments of Psychology and Biology, with coursework drawing from other departments as well—both in the College of Arts and Letters and in the College of Science. He explained that neuroscience is fundamentally a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary field of study. The complexity involves the coordination of multiple disciplines across the humanities and sciences, and creates the context for a scholarly conversation about mind, brain and behavior.

Nationally, there are approximately 125 doctoral programs in neuroscience and 100 undergraduate programs. These programs are invariably interdisciplinary and often anchored by departments of biology and psychology. There is usually flexibility as to whether the degree obtained is a BA or a BS. Neuroscience will increase in importance in the years ahead—which makes this an opportune time for Notre Dame to launch a program.

A critical mass of 50+ faculty from across the colleges has been identified to deliver the proposed major. The major is compatible with the strategic plan of the College of Arts and Letters, and was strongly recommended by an external review committee and in the Provost's Office mid-cycle review. It is compatible as well with the strategic objectives of the College of Science.

A great interest has been detected from the undergraduate student body; it is expected that the major will grow to about 40 to 50 students/year, drawn initially from pre-professional and Bio/Psychology double majors. The new major should be a strong recruiting tool for prospective students. With respect to placement, it is expected that majors will pursue graduate training in a variety of health professions and graduate research programs. The design of the major follows the blueprint of undergraduate neuroscience education articulated in a 2005 neuroscience conference and, therefore, adheres to best practices.

In response to a question, Prof. Boyd said that there have been ongoing discussions with the Indiana University Medical School about interactions with the major. The new interim director is a neuroscientist and has already volunteered to teach in the program. This relationship will grow stronger.

With no additional questions from Council members, Fr. Jenkins called for a vote on the proposed major in Neuroscience and Behavior. It was approved unanimously.

5. Changes to the Undergraduate Academic Code: Professor Kevin Dreyer

Prof Kevin Dreyer presented to the Council the proposed changes to the Undergraduate Academic Code; members have received a handout with the changes indicated within. All the changes proposed were for purposes of clarity of language. The only exception was the changes to the Excused Absence policy, which was presented to the Council at the last meeting.

College of Arts and Letters Assistant Dean Ava Preacher proposed a friendly amendment to section 4.6, which discusses undergraduate student probation at the end of the spring semester and the impact if a student regains good standing and then falls back into probation in the fall semester. After some discussion, it was agreed to move to approve all proposed changes with the expectation that there may still be some additional, clarifying changes in language. Prof. Dreyer noted that the Code does not yet reflect the changes made at the April 2014 meeting to the Physical Education requirement. Those changes will not go into effect for another year. There will need to be another adjustment to the Code in the 2014-2015 academic year.

The proposed changes to the Undergraduate Academic Code were approved unanimously.

[The current Code is posted at: <http://facultyhandbook.nd.edu/governance/>]

6. Proposed changes to the Undergraduate Academic Code of Honor –Dean Hugh Page

The University committee on the Academic Code of Honor, the Academic Code and Policy committee, and several other entities responsible for administering the Honor Code revisited the Code, as several of its sections are in need of clarification and revision.

Section 7.G.1 relates to administrators and faculty members who are to receive notification of an honor code violation. The list was expanded several years ago to include a student’s dean, academic advisor and rector. It is now proposed to include other individuals who might be deemed “vital” in a given situation. The change provides latitude to the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs to account for individual circumstances.

There are several reasons for the proposed change. In certain instances, members of the President’s Leadership Council—for example, the President, Provost, or Vice President of Student Affairs—should be made aware of the decision, particularly if there is concern for the student’s physical and/or emotional wellbeing. In the case of violations involving dismissals, additional units on campus may need to be made aware of a change in student status so as to provide appropriate counsel on visa and/or on government compliance issues. In the event of a violation by a student who is a member of the Reserve Officers Training Core program, notification of the military commander may be prudent and necessary. In a few instances, particularly after an initial honor code violation, there may even be good reason for others, in a position either to provide or secure mentoring and/or counseling for a student, to be notified. The proposed language allows the person in the Provost’s office serving as steward of the honor code to exercise discretion in determining additional persons to receive notification when such is deemed necessary. Such circumstances would almost certainly involve consultation with University counsel.

The proposed changes were approved unanimously.

Fr. Jenkins thanked all the members of the Council for their hard work during this academic year. He also named and thanked the members who are rotating off the council at the end of this year. Emphasizing the importance of this Council’s work, he offered his appreciation for members’ commitment.