

Committee on Academic Policy

Meeting Minutes

11th CAP Meeting of 2018-2019

Monday, January 14, 2019

Chair: David Olinger (ME)

In Attendance: Jeanine Dudle (CEE), Art Heinricher (Dean, Undergraduate Studies), Mayer Humi (MA), Christine Love (Registrar), David Olinger (ME), Guillermo Salazar (CEE)

Student Representatives: Chris Tocci (BIO/PW), Ryan Candy (MA)

Guests: Elke Rundensteiner (CS; Data Science Steering Committee), Diane Strong (SoB; Data Science Steering Committee)

1. New Data Sciences Major

- a. In December 2018, D. Olinger provided CAP's feedback on the proposed B.S. Program in Data Science to the Data Science Steering Committee (DSSC). The DSSC submitted a response to the feedback and a revised proposal. Members of the DSSC were present at the meeting for discussion.
- b. Concern was raised by CAP regarding the flexibility/inflexibility of the program. DSSC members noted that the program was developed using predominantly existing resources, making the program inflexible in some areas, and very flexible in others. Modifications may be proposed in the future if new courses are added.
- c. Clarifications were requested by CAP regarding use of higher level courses to meet certain requirements and exceptions to required courses. The DSSC noted that higher level courses can be used to satisfy certain distribution requirements, and exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis.
- d. CAP questioned the use of the words "Disciplinary Electives" for distribution requirements. The DSSC noted that this wording is used by other programs for disciplinary requirements and is different than "Free Electives".
- e. CAP questioned whether the term "Engineering Science" was inclusive of all Engineering courses. It was confirmed that the undergraduate catalog uses the term "Engineering Science" as inclusive of engineering in the WPI Degree Requirements.
- f. CAP stated that courses that are cross listed in the undergraduate catalog should be noted as such in the DS distribution requirements and program chart. The DSSC will make the necessary updates.
- g. The DSSC will submit an updated proposal to CAP for consideration.

The next CAP meeting will take place on Monday January 28, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM

Submitted by Jeanine Dudle (Secretary C term)