Academic Affairs Committee—March 12, 2019

Present: Sandy Maisel, Katie Donahue, Lindsey Nelson, Christie Woodside, Chasity McFadden, Sam Scott, Russ Johnson, Jim Sloat, Loren McClenachan, Ashlee Guevara, Steve Saunders

I. Minutes from the previous meeting (March 5) were approved.

II. Seven course proposals were approved.

>CS 3xx (Computational Modeling Simulation I)
>CS 4xx (Computational Modeling Simulation II)
>CS 125 (Introduction to *R*)
>GM 2xx (Reading the Short Story)
>JA 3xx (Gods, Ghosts, and Goblins …) Exp, L
>PL 111 (Central Philosophical Issues: Justice and Society)
>ST 3xx (Applied Longitudinal Analysis)

CS125 was originally offered (fall 2018) as a "One-time/Experimental" course. With a number of modifications (including a lengthened schedule) based on that experimental offering, the course was now proposed (and approved) as a regular course. The committee felt that Gods, Ghosts, and Goblins, proposed as a 300 level course, is more appropriate for listing at the 200 level. Russ will follow up with the department on that matter.

III. Field trip policy. We finalized the language for a motion (and accompanying rationale) that will be introduced at the March faculty meeting. The motion now states that the section of the Faculty Handbook (p73) that deals with field trips shall be changed to the following:

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE FOR THE FACULTY HANDBOOK
Field Trips. Instructional field trips off campus may be arranged by the instructor, but students may not be required to be absent from regularly scheduled class meetings of another course. Instructors may not require participation in a field trip that takes place during Spring Recess or during any other official college recess. Optional trips associated with a class may take place during a college recess.

IV. Modifications to Sociology major and minor requirements. The Sociology department has proposed to increase the number of classes taken abroad that can be counted toward major requirements from one to two. They also proposed to decrease the number of 300 level electives required for the minor from two to one. The committee approved both of these changes.

V. Proposal for a new major in Computational Psychology. The Psychology and Computer Science departments have jointly proposed a new interdisciplinary

major in Computational Psychology. This major would be analogous to already existing majors in Computational Biology, Environmental Studies Computation, and Theater and Dance-Interdisciplinary Computation. The sense of the committee was that the new major would prepare students in an important and developing area of study and would attract a substantial number of students. The proposal was approved by the committee. It will now be introduced at the March faculty meeting for consideration by the full faculty.