

Academic Affairs Committee—April 2, 2019

Present: Sandy Maisel, Steve Saunders, Loren McClenechan, Dale Kocevski, Katie Donahue, Luke Parker, Sam Scott, Chasity McFadden, Barbara Moore, Lindsey Nelson, Jim Sloat, Russ Johnson

I. Minutes from the previous meeting (March 19) were approved.

II. Eight course proposals were approved.

- HI 2xx (History of the US West) H, U
- HI 3xx (Race, Labor, and Gender in the 19th Century US) H, U
- MU15x (Electronic Dance Music Composition) Exp, A
- RE 3xx (God and the American Essay) Exp, L
- SO 262 (Comparative Perspectives on Inequality) add I
- SO 3xx (Qualitative Research methods) revision of 272
- ST 2xx (History of Biology) N
- TD 3xx (Leadership Behind the Scenes...) A

III. Field Trip Policy Motion. At the March faculty meeting there was vigorous discussion about the motion introduced by this committee. Geology and East Asian Studies advocated in favor of allowing field trips during official breaks, since such trips could provide benefits to their students not otherwise available. A number of faculty members advocated for the ability to schedule field trips that would conflict with the regularly scheduled meetings of other classes, since (again) this would offer educational opportunities to their students that could not otherwise be provided. After discussion of several options for modifying the original motion, the committee settled on a version that more clearly describes and delineates the difference between required and optional field trips. The new motion does not strictly forbid scheduling trips during the regularly scheduled meetings of other classes, but neither does it give such trips priority over those classes (as does the current Faculty handbook language).