

SCIENCE DEGREE DISCUSSIONS

Wagner, Joyce

Fri 2/3/2017 8:36 AM

To: Martino, Danielle; Barembaum, Morrie; Foley, Denise; Lui, Anson; Smith, Mark; Taylor, Michael; Brooks, Debra; Swift, Cynthia; Torneo, Nicole; Bailey, Denise; Hovanitz, Eric; Johnson, Kimberly; El Said, Nahla; Wada, Jeffrey; Rutan, Craig;

Cc: Aguilera, Leonor; Garbis, Tiffany;

Subject: Science Degree

Hello all,

The Science Degree is back in the spotlight due to our upcoming midterm accreditation report. It is an interdisciplinary degree that has yet to be assessed. We had discussions about deactivating (see the emails below) and had held off until more was known about the Chemistry Transfer Degree. We were unable to create a Chemistry Transfer Degree that fit within the 60 units, but since so many other colleges had the same difficulty, the Chancellor's Office is allowing us to keep our local Chemistry degree for the foreseeable future.

In order to keep the Science Degree, we need a group of science faculty that is willing to do assessment this semester, similar to the program outcomes portion of the academic program review. Maybe this can be a topic of discussion at your Flex department meetings. The program outcomes are listed at the end of the degree page: http://www.curricunet.com/sccc/reports/program_report.cfm?programs_id=565

If not, could we have an consensus to start the deactivation process?

The number of completers from 2012 to 2016 were: 6,11,19,14,13 but keep in mind that these students would have gotten the liberal arts mathematics and sciences degree and a degree from their specific discipline.

Thank you,

Joyce

From: Wagner, Joyce

Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 7:37 PM

To: Martino, Danielle; Barembaum, Morrie; Foley, Denise; Houska, Robert; Lui, Anson; Powers, Charleen; Smith, Mark; Taylor, Michael; Brooks, Debra; Swift, Cynthia; Torneo, Nicole; Bailey, Denise; Hovanitz, Eric; Johnson, Kimberly; El Said, Nahla; Wada, Jeffrey; Rutan, Craig

Cc: Aguilera, Leonor; Garbis, Tiffany

Subject: RE: Science Degree

No consensus seems to have been reached on the Science degree, so we can consider the following:

- We can make any necessary revisions to the Science degree (new courses, deletions, etc.) at the end of the semester and send it to the Chancellor's Office for approval. The leadership at the Chancellor's Office has changed, so we can't anticipate how they will respond.
- If it is approved, there needs to be some sort of assessment process. Assessment happens mostly through course mappings, but there needs to be some group to make sure that the assessment results guide improvement (ACCJC language). I am not sure how this degree fits in with program review.
- The Chemistry degree will be in our next catalog, because the final deadline to develop a Chemistry transfer degree is not until August and by then it will be too late to make changes to the catalog.

I still have concerns about using the Science degree as a renamed Chemistry degree, but we can continue with discussions and also see what is happening around the state.

Several people were in favor of deactivating the Science degree, so if you have concerns with waiting, please let us know.

Take care,

Joyce

From: Wagner, Joyce

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 9:31 AM

To: Martino, Danielle; Barembaum, Morrie; Foley, Denise; Houska, Robert; Lui, Anson; Powers, Charleen; Smith, Mark; Taylor, Michael; Brooks, Debra; Swift, Cynthia; Torneo, Nicole; Bailey, Denise; Hovanitz, Eric; Johnson, Kimberly; El Said, Nahla; Wada, Jeffrey; Rutan, Craig

Cc: Aguilera, Leonor; Garbis, Tiffany

Subject: Re: Science Degree

Good questions, but a couple of cautions. The Science degree has major issues according to the Chancellor's Office guidelines. It can't really be coded as a degree leading to transfer (it doesn't match anything at the CSUs or UCs) and it is not a CTE degree. It is quite possible that it will not be approved next time it goes to the Chancellor's office which would be this year. Recently, the Chancellor's office has been not approving curriculum that they might have approved in the past.

I also would feel dishonest if the main purpose of the Science degree is to act as a substitute Chemistry degree in an effort to bypass the law. The Liberal Arts degrees are, so far, acceptable and we have them for a large number of areas.

The deadline for developing a Chemistry ADT is 18 months after its posting date of 2/1/2015 which puts it at 8/1/2016 to have final approval at the Chancellor's office. Keep in mind the approval process has multiple steps, so we would want to approve any changes here by December.

A cluster meeting is always a great idea. If you would like Tiffany, Leonor, or me to attend, please let us know.

From: Martino, Danielle

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 8:39 AM

To: Wagner, Joyce; Barembaum, Morrie; Foley, Denise; Houska, Robert; Lui, Anson; Powers, Charleen; Smith, Mark; Taylor, Michael; Brooks, Debra; Swift, Cynthia; Torneo, Nicole; Bailey, Denise; Hovanitz, Eric; Johnson, Kimberly; El Said, Nahla; Wada, Jeffrey; Rutan, Craig

Cc: Aguilera, Leonor; Garbis, Tiffany

Subject: RE: Science Degree

Hi Joyce,

I suggest we wait on deactivating the Science Degree until we are sure what will happen with Chemistry. If we put them on the other Liberal Arts degree then that needs to be done before this deactivation if the Chem degree is going. What are the time frames for the AS-Chemistry degree "going away?"

I think this is a significant issue. Can we call a "Sciences Cluster" group meeting to discuss this? I'm not sure email is the best way to go over everything. We could also discuss how to do assessments on the current degree if we decide to keep it.

-danny

From: Wagner, Joyce

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 7:21 AM

To: Barembaum, Morrie; Martino, Danielle; Foley, Denise; Houska, Robert; Lui, Anson; Powers, Charleen; Smith, Mark; Taylor, Michael; Brooks, Debra; Swift, Cynthia; Torneo, Nicole; Bailey, Denise; Hovanitz, Eric; Johnson, Kimberly; El Said, Nahla; Wada, Jeffrey; Rutan, Craig

Cc: Aguilera, Leonor; Garbis, Tiffany

Subject: Science Degree

Science Folks,

I was given to understand that there was agreement to deactivate the Science degree a few years ago and that it would only remain active until the Astronomy degree was approved (which it has been). I would like to start the process of deactivation but want to make sure there are no issues we need to address.

The Science degree is problematic for several reasons:

- There is no comparable "Science Degree" at the UCs or CSUs which complicates articulation reporting
- It is not clear who at SCC is responsible for assessment

There will still be a Liberal Arts Mathematics and Sciences AS degree available for students

- Many colleges have liberal arts degrees
- We do have a method of assessment in place
- This would be an option for Chemistry students if we are unable to develop that transfer degree and have to remove the current degree

· We will probably be rewriting this degree to have several emphasis, rather than just a bucket group of courses

Please let us know of any concerns.

Thanks,

Joyce

From: Rutan, Craig

Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 4:49 PM

To: Garbis, Tiffany

Cc: Wagner, Joyce

Subject: Re: Science Degree

Both degrees have issues, but there is no plan for how to assess the outcomes on the science degree. At least there have been discussions about assessing the outcomes on the liberal arts degrees.

The reality is that asking the question about the liberal arts degrees is only going to cause issues with administration. Anything that makes those degrees more meaningful would likely reduce the number of degrees awarded, making our success metrics look even worse. The degrees serve a distinct purpose at the college and we are not the only college that had them.