



# ASA Minutes

## 9:00 pm Haugo Room

### 10/15/2014

**Attendance: (24) Absent: (0)**

**New Business:**

#### **COMPASS and FYE**

- *Dean Hasseler:* Curriculum council has been working hard on our education plan and making some revisions. To best serve students we do reviews. Each major is reviewed every five years to make sure we are engaging in good practice. This is by far the hardest process. We call the core curriculum our shared major because every department is involved. 135 full time faculty are going to help make the decision and get student feedback. The Augustana Plan was launched in 1987. We decided we wanted to address some things that were challenges in our current plan and make that better for students. We've been working on this for a very long time and have gotten a lot of feedback. Our current Augustana Plan is 57-59 credits with a wild card. COMPASS is 51 credits. There are some things we can do to offer what we hold dear, but also make sure students have the ability to have a major or two and study abroad, etc. This is still a work in progress and we are very interested in your feedback. We would love to have this feedback by the end of this week.
- *Dean Hasseler:* The first major change is instead of different "areas" we have come up with an acronym. Compass was chosen because the letters worked nicely with what we put together, but also the symbolism of navigating what you do here at Augustana. We also like the fact that you can remember it. Critical Conversation is something we've spent an immense amount of time on and we are interested in how we might introduce students to Augustana and prepare all students to be successful in the rest of their time at Augustana. 95% of institutions have a FYE, but what we realized is that the experience is geared toward orientation to the college, not toward helping you understand what is distinctive about Augustana. A Liberal Arts education it helps you put things together and think about big ethical issues. We hope this FYE will create a significant amount of written and oral communication all within the context of thinking about ethical questions. This is meant to help people learn to think, write, and problem solve. Written and oral communication have a lot in common. Teaching these together can be powerful. You will note there is no W requirement or oral communication requirement because they are incorporated into FYE. This would be a two-semester seminar and you would have a choice of topic. Faculty will have a strong focus on shared assignments and written and oral communication. This will incorporate some current things in our gen ed that we feel are important. It is not eight additional credits.
- *Dean Hasseler:* The Orientation section will be classes you take early on. The Western Tradition will now be one course, not two. Well-Being pulls together physical well being, etc. Psychology has talked about offering an adult development course. You can also take a two credit and one credit course. This is a different way of looking at health and wellness. Perspectives has some new courses, Non-western traditions course, but the objectives have been changed to create a global perspective. Religious traditions and theological conversations will be a new perspective on Area 4.2. We want to see how religious traditions interact with one another and shape the world. Scientific intersections and impacts will replace the current non-lab sections. We see these courses

carrying out many of the things we do in capstone, but oriented toward disciplinary areas. Many of these courses will be team taught to help students see how science impacts the world. The US experience is a new category that recognizes that we want to introduce students to a diverse set of perspectives on life in the US. Fine Arts and Literature are similar to how they were. Science and Study in a Discipline are also similar to the old plan.

- *Matt Bell*: My initial question is how to separate classes that are taken by year. How strictly will that be enforced?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: Not at all unless a particular course has a prerequisite. This is in some ways was to guide people in shaping the content of a course. In part we were trying to capture the strengths of our current capstone courses. We've recognized that you need flexibility because of the ways majors are constructed and how your lives go.
- *Aimée Fisher*: How do you see this new plan as a way to increase enrollment?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: There is a lot of data on how an FYE done can positively impact students. The topics covered will be something the faculty are excited about really help students get connected to an institution. In some ways we can promote the ways Augie is something innovative. FYE helps engage students in the college, connect to a cohort and faculty member, and make the experience meaningful.
- *Aimée Fisher*: Will FYE be two semesters with the same classmates and same professor?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: We would love to do that, but it is not possible for everyone. We want to be fair and flexible.
- *Tony Metzgar*: Would you be able to drop an FYE course and choose another?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: You would have the same drop/add opportunity. We want to be careful with enrollment though. Some will love an instructor and some will not. We want to give flexibility for this.
  - o *Dr. Bowman*: The incoming freshman will rank choices and the one they do not want to take and we will try to do our best matching so students are not randomly dumped in a class.
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: People teaching courses will go through a seminar and they will be excited and interested in teaching the courses.
  - o *Dr. Bowman*: The topics that people are thinking about are not esoteric. They are topics that would engage students.
- *Alex Guggenberger*: When you choose which course you want to be in how are you training faculty in order teach something with writing if they are teaching another topic?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: We believe we teach writing across the campus already. In terms of this course we are going to have shared assignments that will fit your topic. This team of instructors will have very intense faculty development.
  - o *Dr. Bowman*: The plan is to use the same textbook used in freshman comp. and faculty will propose their plans to the compass committee to ensure they meet the outcomes and goals. This summer the committee was shaping the plans and writing syllabi (practice) they discovered if they did this and all the writing necessary the content was almost secondary to the process of teaching writing and communication.
- *Ellen Jones*: Right now in our NSS program you stay with your welcome week group. Would the 18 people in your seminar course determine your welcome week group, and how would you incorporate the Viking guides, etc.?

- *Dean Hasseler:* We would love to have your feedback on that. This FYE is a four-credit course and 1 credit is still NSS (orientation piece). We would love to keep strong pieces of current NSS and if working with the Welcome Week group is beneficial that is well worth preserving. Maybe we can figure out how to give students credit if they are serving in leadership capacity.
- *Ryder Reed:* After matching everyone to new student group, my group had a problem keeping students going because it was an S/U course. What is the status of this?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* FYE is a graded course and will have significant academic content. We are thinking about what to do with the fourth hour and the grading on that. We are trying to figure out how to fairly evaluate the orientation experience with the academic experience. There will be more drive to participate.
- *Alejandro Garcia:* Are the same groups from NSS in the class or not?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* We are trying to figure that out still. We could group people by the FYS they signed up for.
  - *Ellen Jones:* Coming from the planning committee, we tried to keep things even with guys and girls. You could have a topic that mostly boys or girls and that would throw things off.
    - *Dean Hasseler:* That is an excellent point, and this is the piece we are still trying to figure out and see how it connects with orientation.
- *Alejandro Garcia:* Is the wild card still available?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* It is not built into the curriculum, but this new curriculum is also 6-8 credits less. What do you think the area that most people use for wild card? Western tradition (50%) As we looked at the curriculum and what the needs are. It is designed to have fewer credits so wild card not necessary.
- *Tony Metzgar:* If you were putting Welcome Week groups in the same FYS would that affect dorm life since most groups are in the same dorm?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* That's another piece on the table. We are thinking about how this affects living and learning communities.
  - *Zach Serrano:* It is not necessarily a bad thing to split up groups that are in the same dorms. It will get people to meet more students and become well rounded and inclusive.
- *Dan Schmidtman:* The cool thing about current NSS is that the leaders are in there. FYE seems more academic, but it would be nice to incorporate the NSS conversation with the fourth hour. During my orientation it was helpful to gain a student's perspective and I don't see room for that in the academic course.
  - *Dean Hasseler:* That's why the fourth hour is important.
- *Elliot Blue:* Is the fourth hour after hours?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* At times other than the scheduled class time. We also want opportunities for outside of class.
  - *Elliot Blue:* Graded based on attendance?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* Yes.
- *Kirsten Titze:* Would the fourth hour be every Thursday of the class or how does that work?
  - *Dean Hasseler:* That is still in conversation. We've talked about it being during the Thursday 10 am time. It might be that your group would go hear a speaker on campus or go to an arts or athletics event. We want to incorporate the informal and student led piece of NSS. Flexibility in fourth hour is important.

- *Matt Bell*: It needs to be required in some way shape or form. If a student doesn't come do they fail the course?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: The course will not be S/U, but grading the fourth hour needs to be important so people take it seriously. We need to make it clear that this is important and meaningful.
- *Carlos Noyola*: Is it is one professor teaching everything?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: One of our expectations is that all of our faculty are competent as writers and oral communicators. We will invest time in training. Professors who worked on this plan saw how it impacted they way they would teach their other courses.
- *Spencer O'Hara*: How will the new credit structure affect Civitas?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: It is not going to impact the credit structure much. You can take your Civitas courses and substitute them for other courses. We do not want to have separate Civitas FYS.
- *Megan Wencl*: What about capstone?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: There is no capstone model, but we have a couple of courses geared toward juniors and seniors (religious traditions and scientific inquiry). We want to keep things from capstone in new curriculum and encourage team teaching.
- *Kiri Jacobsen*: If NSS was team-taught would you make sure professors are educated enough to teach topics they aren't familiar with?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: We are not looking to have FYE team-taught.
- *Kirsten Titze*: Right now professors typically teach 3 courses a semester will this count as one?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: We've laid out an intricate distribution because we want to have people involved from across campus. No one would teach more than one of these courses per semester. We've been careful to ensure teaching FYE so that majors are not affected.
    - *Zach Serrano*: Taking that much space in four-credit class could have implications down the road. It could be difficult to get into everything since courses might not be able to take them because professors are teaching FYE.
      - *Dean Hasseler*: Many professors teach multiple sections of intro courses and teach courses in the major.
      - *Dr. Bowman*: We have a pool of faculty who could do this. There are 24 professors who could do this so they could rotate in and out.
- *Joel Hermann*: The Augustana Plan has been here for 30 years and we have an incredible amount of support because of our alumni and donors. How will you present this to alumni?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: We have run this by alumni and Board of Trustees and they love it. It captures what Augie does well. We have kept many of the things of the current Augustana Plan and added things.
  - *Dr. Bowman*: Courses are assessed each year, if something isn't working then we can address it.
- *Joel Hermann*: If this plan is going to pass, have you talked to Admissions to talk to student ambassadors about marketing it to prospective students?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: Our Admissions office is excited. It is something powerful to present to new students. To implement this is going to take some time. It will take another academic year to get courses put together and transition everyone from an old curriculum to a new curriculum.

- *Hannah Norem*: Some freshmen get out of English 110 and some from Communications 110. What are you doing for students who are exempt from those courses?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: You would still get credit for the class you did AP, but you still have to take the FYE.
- *Aimée Fisher*: What student input has there been on the plan so far?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: I came to this student group last year and we had students on the FYE group and very active and thoughtful members from ASA on the curriculum council.
- *Aimée Fisher*: I am concerned about the implications of splitting critical thinking and ethical questioning into separate semesters. These are two integral concepts.
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: Critical thinking and ethical reasoning are more a focus on what is foregrounded in that particular basics of critical thinking that prepare you for ethical reasoning. A few professors tried to do two different syllabi and found they liked having basic critical thinking to prepare students for processing ethical questions.
- *Dan Schmidtman*: I'm concerned with Civitas students not being able to fit in classes. We want to make sure they aren't overcommitted. Right now you need 8 courses, then with FYE need another 8 hours. I'm concerned students may not take two Civitas courses freshman year, and eventually drop out of Civitas because they become overwhelmed with taking so many classes later on in their college experience.
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: We laid out a few models with Civitas program offerings in January term. For every model student we could fit at least one Civitas course in per semester with every major. Joni found that almost every Bio-Chem major has completed Calc before coming here.
- *Joel Hermann*: Does that solve problem? What if high school doesn't offer Calc?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: We figured it out with Calc built in. It will take careful planning.
- *Matt Bell*: How will external credits work for transfer students?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: This is going to depend when you come as a transfer student. Many of these things are what we deal with now with transfers.
  - o *Matt Bell*: I like the plan, it seems like the categories are harder to fit in courses you took elsewhere.
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: It will depend on whether the students who transfer in sophomore or junior year have a background in oral and written communication. The US experience could be applied to an AP US history course. FYE will be case by case.
  - o *Matt Bell*: Are you concerned with how that will affect students' ability to study abroad?
    - *Dean Hasseler*: Very few students in their first year study abroad so we don't think this will be an issue.
- *Ellen Jones*: If you have someone who transfers and they don't have the oral and written communication experience, will you make them take FYE as a junior?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: No, we always have to look what students come with and match them with a good program.
  - o *Ellen Jones*: Do we require transfer students to go through NSS?
    - *Dean Hasseler*: They have a different orientation.
- *Ryder Reed*: I am a Bio and Spanish major and have labs and other courses that allow me to "double dip" my other major with gen eds. Is this possible with the new plan?
  - o *Dean Hasseler*: We see a lot of that possible in this new plan.
- *Alex Guggenberger*: A lot of people think of transfer students, but we also have adult learners. Is there an orientation for them? Being in classes with students half your age is really hard.

- *Dean Hasseler*: We are looking into that. Right now we have an accelerated nursing program.
- *Alex Matson*: One thing I like about the current orientation program is that the professors have a plan to help students transition to college. Will there still be something that helps students transition since this new FYE seems very academic?
  - *Dean Hasseler*: Vocation is an important aspect of this and we will continue to use strong components of NSS.
- *Dr. Bowman*: Thank you for inviting us, you've had really good questions.
- *Dean Hasseler*: If you didn't get a chance to speak, please send us an email with comments, questions, or concerns.

*CEF Request: Dan Schmidtman*

- A few weeks ago, the Friday before homecoming, we got a CDF request from Augieholics to fund their tailgate. This was expected with the budget change. However, a group needs to submit a request two weeks in advance so we can have a full senate vote. We wouldn't have met before the day of their event and given the rules outlined on the form, we denied them funding. In this request they are asking for funding from the homecoming, USF, and final home games. The problem is we don't fund groups after the date of their event before full senate meeting. They should submit requests on time and this second request was submitted four days before the USF game. After talking with A&P we are going to continue working with Augieholics. They are one of the groups negatively affected by the budget change, but they don't have many members in their group to do service work. We are going to stay true to rules so we will not give them funding for the last two games, but we can fund the last game of the season. A&P decided that \$215 would be allocated.
- *Leah Murfield*: Do student groups have access to rollover funds from the previous year?
  - *Dan Schmidtman*: They did have rollover from last year.
- *Zach Serrano*: Were they informed of when our meeting was?
  - *Dan Schmidtman*: It needs to be in two weeks before a full senate meeting since our committee needs to meet and then bring it to the senate.
- *Ellen Jones*: Where are the expenses laid out for the final game?
  - *Dan Schmidtman*: They predict \$215 for each game.
- *Leah Murfield*: Have they done any volunteer service?
  - *Dan Schmidtman*: One of the things we emphasized at the leader training session was before you come to us with CDF or LDF go volunteer. Even if they go get 15 hours they could get paid 5 additional hours, but at least it shows they are willing to put work into the success of their group. Other groups are going out to volunteer before coming to us with requests. We want to support Augieholics and we want them to be successful, but if they can't come to us with a request 2 weeks in advance it is hard to do that.
  - *Leah Murfield*: Do you know if they have plans to volunteer?
    - *Dan Schmidtman*: I don't know of any currently. In my email I said they should be volunteering.
- *Megan Wencil*: They are a different student group to work with. A lot of people consider themselves Augieholics, but would that Augieholic be dedicated to do service work?
  - *Zach Serrano*: To say they aren't dedicated is unfair since you are putting that on five students.

- *Dan Schmidtman*: Submitting request four days in advance of biggest game does not show me you are dedicated. If they did volunteer even some it shows they are dedicated and abiding by rules set for all student groups.
- *Elliot Blue*: It comes down to responsibility. You should be on top of your game for your big events. We don't want to be breaking our rules to bail them out.
- *Joel Hermann*: Going forward we have \$4500 in our CDF. Last year I think Augieholics received \$6000. That money cannot be made up in one request. Even though they need students to come to games, we need to talk about what we are going to do whether we think we need to get more people involved in the community. This issue isn't over based off of one request and just because we aren't funding previous tailgates does not mean they will not receive funding the future.
- *Kirsten Titze*: Right now you want groups to do 10 hrs right away and then plan to volunteer more?
  - *Dan Schmidtman*: The new budget favors bigger groups on campus. We aren't going to expect exorbitant amounts of volunteer hours, but make sure you are going out into community. If there is a special occasion we want to help student groups with that.
- *Brittany Dardis*: Keep in mind this budget is new and there are going to be changes as we go.
- **Motion: Matt Bell | Second: Ellen Jones | Result: Pass | Abstain: Joel Hermann**

**Adjourn:**

**Motion: Joel Hermann | Second: Dan Schmidtman | Result: Pass**

SENATOR	PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Zach Serrano	X		
Ellen Jones	X		
Hanna Werling	X		
Joel Gullickson	X		
Alex Guggenberger	X		
Sarah Larimer	X		
Kirsten Titze	X		
Alejandro Garcia	X		
Kat Van Gerpen	X		
Matt Bell	X		
Kuku Lilo	X		
Joel Hermann	X		
Tony Metzgar	X		
Hannah Norem	X		
Kara Schroeder	X		
Katelyn Graber	X		
Kiri Jacobsen	X		
Kirsten Olson	X		
Leah Murfield	X		
Megan Wencil	X		
Ryder Reed	X		
Alex Matson	X		
Carlos Noyola	X		
Spencer O'Hara	X		



OFFICER	PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Brittany Dardis	X		
Elliot Blue	X		
Dan Schmidtman	X		
Aimee Fisher	X		

ADVISOR	PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Jim Bies	X		