

Academic Council – January 27, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Meeting location: Teams (inclement weather – all remote)

1. Call To Order - 3:01pm by Dawn Sales

2. Welcome and Introductions – no new introductions

3. Old Business

LATE ADD: Review SOWK 3315 and 4335 for compliance with State regs

Colvin presented the CSWE accreditation requirements for the major and how these courses contribute to competencies required for professional development. Council discussion supported compliance with state regulations.

4. New Business

a. Review and vote on minutes from Nov/Dec 2026 meeting (see attached files)

Correction – Cybersecurity program is a BA and not a BS. Motions to approve with edit: Garrett and Valdez. Vote: APPROVED.

b. Departments Proposals (see attached files)

It was prefaced before the discussions about the organization of the colleges that the discussion and vote of the Council would serve as recommendations to the Provost (in consultation with the President) will make the final decision. Each Dean presented their proposal.

i. College of Business and Technology

Motions to accept: Casa de Calvo and Valdez. Vote: APPROVED.

Considerations: Graduate Program Coordinator – will this be a department chair with no faculty or a GPC that is not housed under a department but rather reports to the dean. College prefers a GPC that reports to the dean. BUSI prefix needs to live under a department – Dean offered under Management, Marketing, & Leadership if needed.

ii. College of Education and Human Development

Motions to accept: Valdez and Casa de Calvo. Vote: APPROVED.

Dean Valdez was impressed by the willingness of the faculty to integrate the graduate and undergraduate programs.

Considerations: Review of the School of Education and Human Services. Could this be confusing with the College name that includes “human development.” While the proposal puts forth 4 chairs the College is amenable to possibly reducing to one Chair over School of Counseling & Ed Leadership with 3 Graduate Program Coordinators as suggested for consideration.

iii. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Motions to accept: Valdez and Garrett. Vote: APPROVED.

Considerations: Proposal did not include the Mathematics BA. Sales will ensure all programs included once departments are established and that courses and programs align. There was a comment regarding the Department of STEM and Pre-Health Studies in that STEM can be across the curriculum.

Important distinctions and definitions going forward: We will continue to refer to Graduate Program Coordinators as they have additional duties in advising and admissions and are paid accordingly. We will no longer refer to generic Program Coordinators but rather distinguish them as Content Experts (CEs) as they are needed for SACSCOC accreditation to sign off on curricular proposals. CEs are a service position as a part of faculty duties to steward the curriculum.

Provost Markwood thanked the Deans and faculty for their work in ushering in these changes that are important for the sustainability of our university.

5. Program-Course Sets

LAS - New Program - Forensics and Investigative Science, BS

LAS - New Course - FRNS 3310 Legal Aspects of Forensic Investigation

LAS - New Course - FRNS 3311 Report Writing in FIS

LAS - New Course - FRNS 3321 Forensic Photography

LAS - New Course - FRNS 3330 Firearm and Toolmark Examination

LAS - New Course - FRNS 3331 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

LAS - New Course - FRNS 4360 Medicolegal Death Investigation

LAS - New Course - FRNS 4390 Research

LAS - New Course - FRNS 4391 Internship

LAS - New Course - FRNS 4399 Special Topics

LAS - New Course - CJUS 4365 Complex Investigations & Major Case Management

Program and courses were reviewed as a set.

Motions to approve: Shaqlaih and Robertson.

Overall, there is tremendous support and student demand for this new program. Some edits to the proposal were needed based on discussion: 1) PSCI 1040 and 1050 needed to be replaced with PSCI 1305 and 1306; 2) MATH 1314 and BIOL and CHEM courses in the core are major requirements and needed to be added to the majors requirements as such; 3) review of the major electives to ensure that the courses are all active in the course inventory; 4) Some of the course prerequisites required a student to be a major in CJUS or FIS. Needs to be removed and only offer course-based prerequisites to remove barriers; 5) Improve the rationale and Program Description content to show the distinction between our program and others, especially Denton.

Motion to Table the Program and Courses until edits can be completed: Garrett and Casa de Calvo. VOTE: APPROVED. Program and courses are tabled pending edits and resubmission to AC.

6. Course Proposals

LAS - Edit Course - SOCI 4850 - Course Number: Internship (see proposal in the Coursedog)

Motions to approve: Casa de Calvo and Valdez.

Discussion brought concerns related to the effective date for the course (needs to be in the future like FA 26 rather than FA 25) and the number of times that the course can be repeated for major credit clarification.

Motion to Table the course approval until edits can be completed: Casa de Calvo and Garrett. VOTE: APPROVED. Course will be tabled pending edits and resubmission to AC.

7. Program Proposals

Business - Inactivate Program - Dealership Management certificate (see proposal in the Coursedog)

Business - Inactivate Program - Dealership Management minor (see proposal in the Coursedog)

Inactivation of Business Programs was considered in a set.

Motions to approve: Garrett and Casa de Calvo. VOTE: APPROVED.

Removed from the catalog with 'teach out' plans due to low enrollment in the programs of study, and a desire to move college resources to new endeavors.

LAS - Inactivate Program - Geographic Information Systems (see proposal in the Coursedog)

Motions to approve: Casa de Calvo and Garrett. VOTE: APPROVED.

Removed from the catalog due to no enrollment for the last 5 years. No teach out plan is needed.

Sales reiterated that these actions removed programs from the catalog but did not impact the courses offered in the programs. If there are courses that will no longer be taught it is important to complete the Inactivate Course forms to remove them from the inventory so course numbers can be reset.

8. Announcements – No announcements

Adjourned at 4:41 pm.