

MINUTES
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Zoom
January 10, 2023

Voting Members Present:

Ed Bushman, Clay Christensen, Diana Dowling, Cassi Gibson, Sheila Jarrell,
Tiffany Kragnes, Charlie Lohman, Lindsay Masten, Liz Peters, Kathie Peterson,
Andrea Riffel, Diane Ryan, Karly Schauwecker, Tania Sheldahl, Sarah Southwick,
Denise Woolsey

Non-Voting Members Present:

Angie Poland, Patti Schlosberg, Leslie Sparkman, Ustadza White

Absent: Alex Barber, Stacey Hilton, Jennifer Ritter

Guests: Max Bledsoe, Abigail Boyd, Joani Fisher, Mary Heller, Nanette Hofer, John Morgan,
Heather Mulcaire, Craig Ralston, Aaron Rodriguez, Kelsey Rumsey

I. Approval of Minutes December 6, 2022

Motioned and seconded to approve the minutes; vote taken; motion approved.

II. New Business

A. Addendum to correct 11/22/22 approved minutes

Motioned and seconded to approve the addendum; discussion; vote taken; motion approved.

III. Grouped Curriculum Proposals

A. CATE

1. 01/10/2023 – Basic Carpentry Certificate Modification + new CBT courses

Motioned and seconded to approve the modification and courses; discussion regarding complexity if a student partially completes an option on one campus and then switches to the other; vote taken; motion approved with one abstention.

B. Arts & Humanities

1. 01/10/2023 – Program Mod - AAFA Performing Arts Concentration & courses

Motioned and seconded to approve the proposal; discussion regarding course capacities and number of electives; minor editorial changes made; vote taken; motion approved with one abstention. Caveat: The number of electives must be reduced for 2024-25.

C. Stand-alone course proposals

1. 01/10/2023 –New course: PHI 232

The proposal is not ready to be voted on by the curriculum committee and is being withdrawn. The course was added as a recommendation (not a requirement) to the

BS Business degree but can be removed. Dr. Ryan reserves the right to bring it back if Andrew Winters is reached to complete the proposal.

2. 01/10/2023 – New course: ENG 236

Motioned and seconded to approve; discussion; vote taken; motion approved with one abstention.

IV. Informational items

1. Memo from Dr. Rhine to Curriculum Committee re: ECE AAS deletion
Per the memo, Dr. Rhine upholds Dr. Ryan's recommendation to overturn the curriculum committee's decision. The memos are attached to these minutes.

2. Minor elective list update for Production Horticulture Cert (following previous approval 11/29/22)

V. Other

1. Clay Christensen introduced Abigail Boyd, who will be taking his place as the student representative on the curriculum committee.

2. Kyle Russ-Navarro will not be able to attend meetings this semester due to his teaching schedule. Liz will contact the Math department.

3. Additional Curriculum meetings: We will have a meeting on 1/24/23. Future meeting dates are to be determined.

VI. Adjournment

MEMO

To: Dr. Lisa Rhine, President

From: Dr. Diane Ryan, VP of Academic Affairs

Date: 1.5.2023

Subject: Curriculum Committee's vote to not approve the sunseting of the Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science Degree

On November 22, 2022, the approved minutes from the Curriculum meeting indicated the committee voted to not approve the sunseting of the ECE A.A.S. degree

https://www.yc.edu/v6/curriculum/docs/minutes_112222.pdf

I was not present at the meeting due to extenuating circumstances.

The rationale for sunseting the degree is:

1. Over a five-year (2016 – 2021) we have an average graduation rate of 4 students per year.
2. The degree does not pay a living wage and is not needed for most childcare positions in Yavapai County. This does not support the living wage pillar of the College's strategic plan. Financially, we are not leaving students better off than when they came to us.
3. The majority of ECE students earn the basic or advanced certificate.
4. Mandatory observations and practicums at the FEC did not go back into effect until Fall 2021, so this has had no impact on degree completion.
5. Dr. O'Neil's assertion to the Curriculum committee on 11/22/22 that it was my decision to sunset this degree is not accurate. Dr. Fisher, Dr. O'Neil and I had three meetings in the summer of 2022 to discuss sunseting the degree. Virginia Hout, Director of the FEC supports sunseting the A.A.S. and for students who want an associate to steer them towards the AAEE because the early childhood field is trying to elevate their educational status.

I am seeking support to not accept the recommendation put forth by the Curriculum Committee and for the A.A.S. ECE degree to be sunsetted.

January 5, 2023

RE: Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied of Science Degree

Yavapai College Curriculum Committee,

As you know, on November 22, 2022, the approved minutes of the Curriculum meeting indicated that the Committee's motion to sunset the Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science Degree did not pass.

College Council's Participatory Governance decision making process has defined academic matters that will be given primacy in decision making. Per YC's Policy 10.11.01, academic primacy is ensured in several ways, as indicated in YC's "Statement on Academic Matters & Primacy."

Academic Matters are defined as course content in a faculty member's classes, requirements for certificates and degrees, establishing prerequisites, and grading policies. Recommendations on academic matters must come from one or more of the academic committees: Instruction (HLC 3.A), General Education (HLC 3.B), Curriculum (HLC 4.A) and Assessment of Student Learning (HLC 4.B).

Academic Primacy, which is defined as faculty weighting of academic matters, is demonstrated on the academic committees by:

- A. Committee is co-chaired by a faculty member and VP of Academic Affairs (nonvoting).
- B. The majority of the members on the academic committees are faculty.
- C. Recommendations brought forth concerning academic matters from the academic committees go directly to the Vice President and the President for approval and College Council as informational items.
- D. Pre-College Council meetings with the College President and Vice President of Academics and Faculty Senate officers (President or Co-Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretary, & Treasurer) occur monthly.
- E. Faculty members on the academic committees are selected by faculty.

In this case, item C: Recommendations brought forth concerning academic matters from the academic committees go directly to the Vice President and the President for approval and College Council as informational items, applies.

Dr. Ryan has reviewed the Curriculum Committee's recommendation and seeks to overturn the Curriculum Committee's Decision.

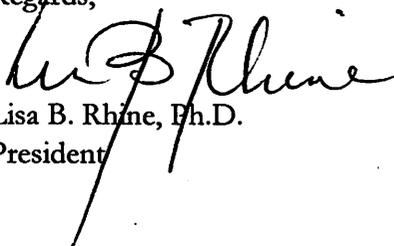
After, careful consideration, I uphold Dr. Ryan's recommendation to overturn the Curriculum Committee's decision. Therefore, the Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science Degree will be sunset effective immediately. The Early Childhood Education Basic Certificate and the Early Childhood Education Advanced Certificate will remain active. This decision is final.

My rationale is as follows:

- a) The Yavapai College Strategic Plan focuses on providing students with educational opportunities that lead to living wage job opportunities. Currently, in the state of Arizona, entry level positions in childcare centers do not require an associate degree and do not pay a living wage. It is not in the student's best interest nor ethically sound for the college to promote a pathway for an applied associate degree in a discipline where the competencies learned are not necessary to enter into the field, where they may incur debt or use up federal Pell grant eligibility, and, upon completion, they earn wages well below a living wage (and no more than they would earn without the competencies); especially when alternative pathways are available in the discipline.
- b) An alternative pathway for those interested in working in the field of early childhood education and desiring an associate degree is the Associate of Arts in Elementary Education. This degree fulfills Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Endorsement requirements and is designed to transfer into certificate-track or non-certificate track teacher education programs. The AAEE is less limiting providing a pathway to a bachelor's in education, more career options, certification and a living wage career.
- c) Over a five-year period (2016-2021), the Early Childhood Education Associate of Applied Science Degree has an average graduation rate of only 4 students per year.
- d) Adequate review and discussion took place during a series of meeting over the summer of 2022 with Drs. Ryan, Fisher and O'Neil who supported the decision to sunset the program.
- e) No evidence or data was provided to substantiate the continuance of this program.

Should local and state credential requirements for childcare workers change requiring an associate degree and wages improve, the College could consider a reinstatement of this applied degree.

Regards,



Lisa B. Rhine, Ph.D.
President