

APRIL 1, 2025

Date approved: 5/6/2025

Present: Tammy Randolph, Rhonda Weller-Stilson, Karlee Ensor (SGA Representative), Sandy Hinkle, Hayley Love, Doug Koch, Kevin Dickson, Eric Bain-Selbo, Paul Sharpe, Sarah Shaner, Joe Pujol, Mel Odegard, Christopher Baldwin,

Absent: Quantella Noto, Chris Haug, Shawn Guiling

Guests: Tim Judd, Tom Blattel, Pradeep Singh, Michelle Brune, Tom Blattel, Brian Donavant, Emmanuel Thompson, Mohammed Abu Sheha, Tonya Wells, Nick Kenney, David Tomchuk

I. [MINUTES:](#)

Motion by Randolph, second by Weller-Stilson, to approve the distributed minutes from March 4, 2025, University Academic Council Meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.

II. Action Items:

- New Programs: none
 - College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
 - Mathematics
 - a. New Program: [MS Data Science](#)

Motion by Randolph, second by Pujol, to consider and approve the addition of a MS in Data Science. Pradeep Singh and Emmanuel Thompson described the background and justification for the new program. Discussion followed. The motion was approved unanimously.

- Addition of Minor: none
- Other (Revisions and Deletions):
 - College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
 - Biology
 - a. Program Change: [BS Biology: Zoology, Botany, and Evolution Option](#)
 - Option Title Change from Organismal, Ecological, and Evolutionary Biology → Zoology, Botany, and Evolution

Motion by Randolph, second by Weller-Stilson, to consider and approve the title change of the BS Biology Option from Organismal, Ecological, and Evolutionary Biology to Zoology, Botany, and Evolution. Tim Judd described the justification for the title change. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Tabled Items:

- College of Humanities and Social Sciences
 - Criminal Justice, Social Work, and Sociology
 - Program Change: [BS Criminal Justice](#)
 - a. Course changes
 - b. Reduce degree from 120 credit hours to 90 credit hours

IV. Information Items:

- College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
 - Biology
 - Revised Program: [BS Biology](#)
 - a. Minimal course changes
 - Revised Program: [MS Biology](#)
 - a. Minimal course changes
 - Agriculture
 - Revised Program: [BS Agribusiness](#)
 - a. Accelerated option
- College of Education, Health, and Human Studies
 - Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education
 - Revised Program: [Specialist in Educational Administration](#)
 - a. Minimal curriculum changes
 - Allied Health, Kinesiology, and Sport Sciences
 - Revised Program: [MS Athletic Training](#)
 - a. Minimal curriculum changes
- Holland College of Arts and Media
 - Music
 - Revised Program: [BM Vocal Performance](#)
 - a. Minimal course changes
 - Revised Program: [BM Instrumental Performance](#)
 - a. Minimal course changes
- [Proposed New Courses, Significant Course Revisions and Course Terminations](#): (proposed courses are currently submitted for 10-day review, will be submitted for 10-day review as of program approval, or were reviewed since the last Academic Council)
 - College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
 - Biology
 - a. BI262 Field Techniques in Biology – Course deletion

- b. BI298 Biol Research I – Course deletion
- c. BI384 Readings in Biology – Course deletion
- d. BI453 Occupational Health – Course deletion
- e. BI455 Industrial Hygiene – Course deletion
- f. BO198 Botany Elective – Course deletion
- g. BO398 Botany Elective – Course deletion
- h. BT406 Genomics – Course deletion
- i. BT408 Biological Microscopy – Course deletion
- j. BT450 Inv Mol Biol/Biotech – Course deletion
- k. BT458 Analytical Bioinformatics – Course deletion
- l. ZO198 Zoology Elective – Course deletion
- m. ZO398 Zoology Elective – Course deletion
- n. BY695 Literature Review – New course
- o. BI544 Pathogenic Micro Lab – Course deletion
- p. BI551 Biol Field Studies – Course deletion
- q. BI552 Biol Field Studies – Course deletion
- r. BI563 Experience in Museum Curation – Course deletion
- s. BI564 Experience in Museum Curation – Course deletion
- t. BI574 Spec Topic Mar Sci – Course deletion
- u. BI575 Spec Topic Mar Sci – Course deletion
- v. BI576 Spec Topics Mar Sci – Course deletion
- w. BI577 Spec Topics Mar Sci – Course deletion
- x. BI578 Spec Topics Mar Sci – Course deletion
- y. BI589 Biological Research – Course deletion
- z. BI590 Biological Research – Course deletion
- aa. BI653 Occupational Health – Course deletion
- bb. BI655 Industrial Hygiene – Course deletion
- cc. BI684 Readings in Biology – Course deletion
- dd. BI694 Thesis-Biology – Course deletion
- ee. BI696 Thesis – Biology – Course deletion
- ff. BO599 Botany Elective – Course deletion
- gg. BO698 Botany Elective – Course deletion
- hh. BT606 Genomics – Course deletion
- ii. BT608 Biological Microscopy – Course deletion
- jj. BT650 Inv Mol Biol/Biotech – Course deletion
- kk. BT658 Analytical Bioinformatics – Course deletion
- ll. BT850 Intro Nan-Sci & Biology – Course deletion
- mm. ZO515 Field Herpetology – Course deletion
- nn. ZO599 Zoology Elective – Course deletion
- Mathematics
 - a. MA610 Introduction to Data Science – New course
 - b. MA511 Advanced Mathematics for Data Science – New course
 - c. MA512 Probability and Statistics for Data Science – New course
 - d. MA685 Projects and Practice of Data Science – New course
 - e. MA410 Introduction to Data Science – New course
- Holland College of Arts and Media

- Mass Media
 - a. MC333 Strategic Production – Course deletion
 - b. MC410 Converged Media Campaigns – Title change
- College of Education, Health, and Human Studies
 - Allied Health, Kinesiology, and Sport Sciences
 - a. TX621 Musculoskeletal Assessment Techniques I – Title change
 - b. TX670 Applying Clinical Research in Athletic Training – Title change
 - c. TX640 General Medical Concerns in Physically Active – Title change

V. Discussion Items and New Business

- Reduced credit hour degrees
 - Working Group presented [proposed language](#) for updating the bulletin to allow reduced credit hour degrees
 - Feedback from members' colleges and departments
 - HCAM accrediting bodies are considering it, but there may be hoops to jump through
 - Doug is doing an accrediting visit for HLC to look at a program change to have reduced credit hour degrees
 - EHHS – accreditation came up, programs may need to yield to accrediting bodies
 - Some programs may not be appropriate candidates for reduced credit hours.

Following discussion of the proposed language for the bulletin allowing for reduced credit hour degrees (below), a motion was made to adopt the proposed language into the bulletin. Motion by Bain-Selbo. Second by Dickson. 11 votes in favor, 1 abstention (Hinkle). Motion passed.

Language for reduced credit hour degrees in the bulletin adopted by the motion:

DEGREE

The bachelor's degree is usually the first academic title or rank conferred on a student by the University for satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study and authenticated by a diploma signifying a measure of achievement. Its purpose is to enable a student to acquire a certain amount of liberal learning and to become proficient in a particular branch of learning. The primary sources of liberal learning in the curriculum of the bachelor's degree are general education and electives. For most programs, those studies leading to proficiency in a branch of learning are a major supported or complemented by one or more of the following: a professional core, a cognate field, a minor.

The curricular structure of the bachelor's degree at Southeast Missouri State University includes:

- either a minimum of 120 degree credit hours for students in traditional credit hour programs or a minimum of 90 degree credit hours for students in specified reduced credit hour programs
- 42 credit hours of general education
- 39 senior division hours (numbered 300-599)

Graduation Requirements. Developmental courses are prerequisites to regular university courses. In addition to any developmental courses numbered below 100 that they are required to take, students in full credit hour programs must complete a minimum of 120 degree credit hours; students in specified reduced credit hour programs must complete a minimum of 90 credit hours.

Credit earned in courses numbered below 100 does not count toward the minimum number of hours required on any degree offered by the University. However, credit in these courses is used in determining the classification of students, academic progress for financial aid, and athletic eligibility.

In order to receive a degree from Southeast, students must pass any required developmental courses or score at the appropriate levels on placement tests to have the courses waived.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

The following statements pertain to all baccalaureate degrees:

- A minimum of 120 hours of undergraduate degree credit (courses numbered 100-599) is required for most programs. Some specified programs will require a minimum of 90 credit hours of undergraduate degree credit (courses numbered 100-599). Those specified programs are listed here (*with a link to the programs*).

Following approval of the motion to adopt the language allowing reduced credit hour degrees in the bulletin, a motion was made to move the proposal for the reduced credit hour degree of BS in Criminal Justice from the table to an action item. Motion by Bain-Selbo. Second by Odegard. Motion passed.

Motion by Bain-Selbo, second by Dickson, to consider and approve the revision of the BS in Criminal Justice. Brian Donavant answered questions on the revision to a reduced credit hour degree. Randolph pointed out that it might be good to have a different name (BAS or other name) for reduced credit hour degrees. Love mentioned that some departments may have both a BS and a BAS. Bain-Selbo mentioned that accrediting bodies have not mentioned that they want a separate class of degree. Programs could have both a 120-hour degree and a reduced credit hour degree if they have two different program titles. Weller-Stilson asked Wells how the university would market this. Wells stated that there would be a press-release, and there would be some media attention. 10 in favor, 1 opposed (Randolph), 1 abstention (Hinkle). The motion was approved.

Pujol moved to adjourn. Dickson seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.