

ASH meeting, Jan 18, 2023

Meeting held in person in Caddo Room (rm. 305), LSU Student Union at 2.35 PM

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:01 PM by Chairperson Williams.
2. Attendance  
*Voting members present:* Cathy Williams, Maribel Dietz, Sanaz Aghazadeh, Ipsita Gupta, Bob Mann, Suzanne Stauffer, Christopher Gregg, John Church  
  
*Not present:* Mustajab Mirza, Kristopher Palagi, Kanchan Maiti, Kimberly Sparr  
  
*Non-voting members present:* Jackie Bach, Phil Verpil, Andrea Jones, Michael Blandino, Clay Benton, Walt Holliday, Erin Schell  
  
Guests: Carol Wickes, Associate Dean Graduate school; Josh Grimm, Interim Dean Manship School; Leonard M. Apar, Wendell Gray Switzer Endowed Chair in Media Literacy, Manship School
3. The Chair welcomed guests to the meeting.
4. No public comments were made.
5. Minutes of the November 2022 meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve the minutes made by Sanaz, seconded by Williams. Motion passed unanimously.
6. The Chair welcomed our newest member of the committee, Phil Verpil, Admissions and Student Aid.
7. Proposal from the School of Education to remove Praxis Exam score and minimum ACT score for admission to a teacher preparation program. There was a new state law passed removing the requirement for the Praxis exam score and so the School of Education needed their requirements to reflect the law. Bach noted that they were not removing all requirements. Jones stated that this was great development. Schnell noted that some of the secondary education programs (HSS, Science) haven't heard about this and should be informed.  
Stauffer moved to suspend the second reading, Gupta seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  
Gregg moved to approve the proposal, Stauffer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Graduate school Proposal from the Graduate School allowing individual departments and units to decide regarding GRE requirements. Sue Wickes, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, explained that they have been piloting a compressive review instead of GRE scores and that they have been pleased with the results. Dietz asked what this review entailed; Wickes stated it included a one page essay with a focus on drive, grit, and persistence. The role of the letter writers has been elevated. They piloted with eight programs and they are now ready to roll it out. Gupta asked if are programs included, Wickes said yes if a graduate degree program. Gregg asked a question about the GRE scores and what exactly are we changing. Wickes replied that the decision on the GRE scores would be given to the departments. When Covid hit and testing sites shut down and departments and the Graduate school made use of other criteria, including the use of a social science grid.  
Stauffer moved to suspend the second reading, Dietz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  
Church moved to approve the proposal, Stauffer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
9. There was a second reading of the Proposal from the Department of History to remove the GRE requirement for admission. Stauffer stated that this proposal was now a moot point and moved to cancel the proposal. Dietz stated that since we were on the second reading and they had made the changes the committee asked

for, we should consider the proposal. Dietz moved to approve the proposal, Gupta seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

10. There was a third reading of Proposal with recommended edits from the Manship School of Mass Communication regarding removal of the 3.0 prioritization language for admission to the school. Comments came from Len Apar, Manship School of Mass Communication who was fine with the 30 hour change but not fine with direct admission. He claimed that this set up a two tier system of Manship students and was a weakness of the proposal. Williams stated that the proposal sent to this committee came from the School. Stauffer asked that given that the 3.0 has been dropped, what is the purpose of direct admission since they already stated that they are going to look the students holistically. Schell asked if everyone would go through UCFY but some wouldn't have to do the application. Josh Grimm answered that it was not exactly a direct admit, admission was still dependent on their grade in the media writing course. Students would still need to get B or better in media writing. Schell asked if all that is going away is that they don't have to do the application. Schell thought it was unfair to students without same advantages. Josh Grimm commented that they do an online application during the semester they take media writing consisting of a short essay. Stauffer stated that it appeared to be a two tiered system and it was not fair. Schell, asked why Manship was looking at the high school scores. Grimm answered that if they don't look at the high school GPA then they are simply measuring their success in the big introductory Gen E. classes at LSU. Schell stated that it should be either direct admit or not. Verpil stated that the Honors college has a similar issue with types of admission and Blandino mentioned the "different doors" to the Honors College. Verpil stated that not everyone submits the same material for selection for Honors college; some provide essays, some ACT scores, some claim an interest. Blandino asked at what stage are the students told, Spring of high school senior year. Verpil stated that with a high school assessment, other documents provided. More discussion ensued about fairness and recruiting holistically by committee.

Mann moved to approve the proposal, seconded by Dietz. Motion passed with three yes votes, two no votes and two abstentions. The Chair did not vote.

11. Meeting adjourned (motion by Stauffer, seconded by Gregg) at 3:25 pm.