

**Members present:** Eric Hanne, AL; Julia Higgs, BA; Yash Bhagwanji, ED; Hongbo Su, EG; Rachel Corr, HC; Lawrence Mello, Library; Clarene Brown-King, NU; Korey Sorge, SC; Sigal Rubin, SJ; Dan Meeroff, Dean, Undergraduate Studies; Mary Ann Gosser, University Honors Council; Donna Chamely-Wiik, Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry; Mitchel Baccinelli (for Maura Flaschner), Admissions; Marie Claire DeMassi, University Registrar; Maria Jennings and Elissa Rudolph, Registrar’s Office.

**Guests:** P. Edgar An, Ocean & Mechanical Engineering; Dalel Bader, University Advising Services; Eric Berlatsky, Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature; Gary Castrogiovanni, Management Programs; Amir Javadinia, Marketing; Liz Kennedy, University Advising Services; Tricia Meredith, Educational Leadership; Maria Vasquez, Educational Leadership; Ethlyn Williams, Management Programs; Xiao-Dong Zhang, Mathematics and Statistics; Michael Zourdos, Exercise Science and Health Promotion.

The meeting, virtual as well as in-person, was called to order at 10 a.m. by UUPC Chair Korey Sorge.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Sorge welcomed committee members and guests. He then asked whether everyone had read the December 4, 2023, minutes and if there were any corrections and/or additions. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Chair Sorge noted that this meeting is being recorded to capture the discussion about removing the FLEX requirement for the B.S. in Exercise Science and Health Promotion since Faculty Senate has requested a summary of the discussion.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Honors College**

HC Rep Rachel Corr commented that the incorrect course number and title found in the Spanish Literature Minor changes submitted last month have been corrected. A new course, SPN 2162, to be presented later in this meeting, takes care of the issues that held up this proposal. **The UUPC approved the Spanish Literature Minor curriculum changes.**

<a href="#"><u>Program Change</u></a>	Spanish Literature Minor (New title: Spanish Minor)		Add Spanish language courses to expand options for completing the minor; change title of minor	
<a href="#"><u>Explanation</u></a>				
<a href="#"><u>Support</u></a>				
<a href="#"><u>UHC Approval</u></a>				

**2. Science**

At the UUPC meeting in September, the group voted to approve the removal of FLEX (Foreign Language Exit Requirement) from the B.S. program in Exercise Science and Health Promotion (ESHP). This item was subsequently tabled by Faculty Senate in October due to a matter of protocol. Requests for FLEX removals require consultation with the Department of Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature. Since this consultation was still needed, Faculty Senate President Kim Dunn referred the proposal to UUPC, asking for additional discussion once the meeting with LLCL was completed. That meeting has now taken place, and Dr. Michael Zourdos, chair of ESHP, shared that LLCL does not support the FLEX removal for this program. He and Dr. Eric Berlatsky, interim chair for LLCL, both spoke at this meeting to present their departments’ views on the proposal.

Dr. Zourdos explained that students in this program have 7 to 9 credits of free electives, and if they must

use most of those credits for language study, they do not have the opportunity to choose electives that are relevant to their field of study. The elimination of FLEX is not a sign of disrespect for language/culture study, but it is related more to helping students gain skills and knowledge in their ESHP program and graduate on time. There is not enough time for students to register for their prerequisite courses and to satisfy FLEX within the first 60 hours of studies. Other state universities – USF, UF, UCF – do not have stringent FLEX requirements in their BS programs. Dr. Zourdos added that his department also administers the BA in Health Science, for which FLEX is required, and the number of students in that major is much higher than in Exercise Science. In essence, his department will still be contributing to the study of languages through the Health Science program.

Dr. Eric Berlatsky distributed an outline detailing compelling reasons for the importance of foreign language study (handout appears after the last page of these minutes). He explained that students should leave FAU with some proficiency in a language, especially with the diversity in the South Florida market. LLCL doesn't feel ESHP's argument for removing FLEX is compelling enough. Dr. Berlatsky added Intellectual Foundations Program (IFP) courses do not provide significant language study and the entrance foreign language requirement (FLENT) does not provide proficiency in a language. FLEX would assist with proficiency and would help graduates in their professional interactions.

A question was asked about how many FAU BS programs require FLEX and how many do not. Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Meeroff replied that 11 FAU BS programs require FLEX and 9 do not. Dr. Berlatsky replied that the tendency to eliminate the FLEX requirements sets a negative precedent, jeopardizing the importance of language in university core curricula.

Discussion continued covering ways to relax requirements in the ESHP program to allow additional electives; creating tracks was also suggested. Dr. Zourdos explained that the department explored a number of ways to satisfy FLEX while helping students gain the knowledge/skills needed for their specific program, but it came up short every time. The decision to remove FLEX was entertained after all other options were explored. The department even considered increasing the credits for this program beyond 120, but the state is not in favor. Others agreed with Dr. Berlatsky's stand about the benefits of language study. A comment was made extolling how language study changes a person's thinking, makes one better in their own native language. Dr. Zourdos said that there is no doubt language study is important, but the issue is what is best for the student within the current program restrictions.

Discussion then moved to whether the UUPC needed to vote again on the removal of FLEX since it already approved this in September. However, because protocol was not followed regarding the consultation with LLCL, the UUPC decided another vote was warranted. ED Rep Yash Bhagwanji made a motion to re-vote on removing the FLEX requirement from the ESHP B.S. program and it was seconded. The vote was five to approve; two to not approve and one abstention. The yes vote carried. **The UUPC approved removing FLEX from the BS in ESHP program.**

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. Education

ED Rep Bhagwanji introduced Guest Maria Vasquez to present a new item from Educational Leadership and Research Methodology. She described the new course as one that will guide students in their research endeavors. **The UUPC approved the new course.**

<a href="#">EDF 4914</a>	Exploring Multidisciplinary Research	3	New	
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#### 2. University-Wide

Dean Meeroff reported that he will be attending a Board of Governors staff presentation on February 13

on the Common Core Curriculum. He thanked the college representatives for quickly implementing course description changes required by the state for the General Education courses. These changes need to be in place in the University Catalog before the June Board of Trustees meeting at which he will be presenting the changes and requesting approval. In early fall, the Board of Governors will then be informed that FAU has met all requirements regarding the General Education Core changes.

### 3. Arts and Letters

#### *History, Political Science, Music*

AL Rep Eric Hanne presented two History courses, one Political Science course, and one Music course with new descriptions related to the state’s General Education course change requirements. These changes were reviewed and approved by FAU’s Core Curriculum Committee. Rep Hanne added that the rest of Arts and Letters’ Gen. Ed. courses will be presented at the February meeting with the state-mandated description changes. **The UUPC approved the new descriptions.**

#### *Interdisciplinary Studies*

Rep Hanne described a new Health Humanities minor, open to all undergraduate students, as a bridge among FAU’s colleges. Course selections currently range throughout four of FAU’s colleges. ED Rep Bhagwanji asked if Education courses might be brought into the new minor; Rep Hanne stated that Education courses should be included in the future. When asked why some special topics courses are part of the minor, Rep Hanne clarified that these courses are included as options to provide flexibility. **The UUPC approved the new minor.**

#### *Languages, Linguistics and Comparative Literature*

Rep Hanne discussed the two Italian course changes. For ITA 3530, the requested change is to teach the course in translation as opposed to teaching it in Italian. The course change for ITT 3956 eliminates the sophomore standing restriction opening it up to freshmen. After a brief discussion, **the UUPC approved the changes.**

<a href="#">AMH 2010</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	United States History to 1877	3	Change description	
<a href="#">AMH 2020</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	United States History since 1877	3	Change description	
<a href="#">ITA 3530 (ITT 3531)</a>	Italian Culture through Food	3	Change prefix, number and description	
<a href="#">ITT 3956</a>	Italian Culture Study Abroad (in translation)	1-6	Change prereq.	
<a href="#">MUL 2010</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	History and Appreciation of Music	3	Change description	
<a href="#">POS 2041</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Government of the United States	3	Change description	
<a href="#">New Program Support</a>	Health Humanities Minor		New	

#### 4. Business

##### **Management**

BA Rep Julia Higgs invited Ethlyn Williams to outline the management items from the College of Business. **The first item, a course termination, was approved by the UUPC.** Dr. Williams explained this course is not being offered as it is no longer needed.

The ENT and all but two of the MAN course title changes are reflected in the program change labeled “Management Major.” The changes to the Management major also involve title changes for the major’s concentrations. RO Rep Maria Jennings shared that the program codes for these concentrations would need to change and either current students would need to be moved to the new codes or allowed to graduate with the old concentration titles. Dr. Williams said the department will make that determination once she sees a list of students and their expected graduation terms. **The UUPC approved these related changes.** Then Dr. Williams discussed two MAN courses related to global business and changes for the department’s International Business programs. **Again, the UUPC approved these related changes together.** Lastly, two minors that list courses with title changes were discussed and **approved by UUPC.**

##### **Marketing**

Guest Amir Javadinia presented the Marketing items. First, two new courses, which will be considered electives, were discussed. **The UUPC approved the new courses.** A program change to incorporate the new courses was described. **The UUPC approved this change.** Lastly, two courses with description changes and one title change were viewed. **The UUPC approved both course changes.**

<a href="#">ENT 4114</a>	Advanced Business Planning	3	Terminate	
<a href="#">ENT 4015</a>	New Venture Launch (New title: Launching Your Business)	3	Change title, description, prereqs.	
<a href="#">ENT 4024</a>	Entrepreneurship	3	Change description	
<a href="#">ENT 4934</a>	Entrepreneurial Assistance Project (New title: Entrepreneurship Consulting Project)	3	Change title	
<a href="#">MAN 3442</a>	International Business Negotiations (New title: Negotiating in a Globalized World)	3	Change title	
<a href="#">MAN 3600</a>	International Business	3	Change description	
<a href="#">MAN 4046</a>	Leadership, Supervisory Skills and Team Development (New title: Leading People and Projects)	3	Change title	
<a href="#">MAN 4301</a>	Human Resource Management (New title: Strategic Human Resource Management)	3	Change title	
<a href="#">MAN 4350</a>	Human Resources Development (New title: Leading Change and	3	Change title	

	Development)			
<a href="#">MAN 4602</a>	Global Business Operations (New title: International Business Operations)	3	Change title	
<a href="#">MAN 4610</a>	Managing Human Resources Globally (New title: Global Human Resource Management)	3	Change title, description	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Entrepreneurial Management Minor		Change course titles in catalog	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	International Business programs		Change course titles in catalog, add course option	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Leadership and Human Resource Development Minor		Change course titles in catalog	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Management Major		Change names of concentrations, update course listings	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Marketing Major		Update major requirements and course offerings	
<a href="#">MAR 3023</a>	Marketing Management (New title: Principles of Marketing)	3	Change title, description	
<a href="#">MAR 3326</a>	Principles of Advertising	3	Change description	
<a href="#">MAR 4103</a>	Introduction to Social Media Marketing	3	New	
<a href="#">MAR 4732</a>	Introduction to Influencer Marketing	3	New	

### 5. Engineering and Computer Science

EG Rep Hongbo Su presented a course change and a related program change in Geomatics Engineering. **Both proposals were approved by the UUPC.**

EG Rep Su then presented a course description change for CAP 4773 and program changes for the new BS in Biomedical Engineering. During the discussion of the Biomedical Engineering proposal, it was determined the changes are not clear and need to be color coded to show what changes are being made. **The UUPC approved the course change with the course description altered. The UUPC postponed the program change asking for the items being updated to be made clearer.** (A week following the meeting, the Biomedical Engineering changes were withdrawn by the college.)

The addition of a "C" in the course number for COT 2000 to make it a combined lecture/lab course was discussed next. The department would like to include a lab component for this Foundations of Computing course, hence the C in the course number is needed. **The UUPC approved COT 2000C.**

In the table below, the next five course changes, beginning with EGM 4045, were discussed together. These involve prerequisite updates and ensuring that all prerequisites are passed with a minimum grade of “C.” **The UUPC approved the course changes.**

Similar changes to three certificate programs in Ocean and Mechanical Engineering were next. The curriculum in these three is being updated to allow for more flexibility for students. There being no issues with them, **the UUPC approved the certificate changes.**

Lastly, one more change for the bachelor’s program in Ocean and Mechanical Engineering was presented. This change involves replacement of one course in the core. **The UUPC approved the program change.**

<a href="#">SUR 3463L</a>	Land Subdivision and Platting Lab	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	BS in Geomatics Engineering		Move one course from fundamentals to electives	
<a href="#">CAP 4773</a>	Introduction to Data Science and Analytics	3	Change description	
<a href="#">Program Change</a> (postponed)	B.S. in Biomedical Engineering		Change various program aspects	
<a href="#">COT 2000</a> (COT 2000C)	Foundations of Computing	3	Change course from lecture to lecture/lab	
<a href="#">EGM 4045</a>	Electro-Mechanical Devices	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">EGN 3365</a>	Engineering Materials 1	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">EGN 4323</a>	Vibrations Synthesis and Analysis	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">EGN 4432</a>	Dynamic Systems	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">EOC 3130L</a>	Ocean Engineering Lab	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Marine Materials and Offshore Engineering Certificate		Change program description	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Naval Architecture Certificate		Change program description	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	Underwater Acoustics		Change program description	
<a href="#">Program Change</a>	BS in Ocean Engineering		Replace one core course with an existing course	

## 6. Honors College

HC Rep Rachel Corr presented items from her college. Eight courses had description changes. **The UUPC approved all eight description changes.** All but ANT 2410 are state-mandated General Education Core

changes. The effective term on these course changes was Spring 2025, but Dean Meeroff asked for them to be changed to Summer 2024 to be in line with the state requirement that all Gen. Ed. Core course changes be completed this fall.

The two Spanish courses were discussed next. The new course mirrors an existing healthcare professions course taught by Arts and Letters. The course change involves adding the Academic Service Learning component. Regarding this change, Dr. Mary Ann Gosser suggested that the ASL approval form should be updated to add a line for the title of the course that is being approved. The form just includes lines for the signatures, but it is not clear what course is being approved for ASL. The Committee agreed. **The two Spanish courses were approved by the UUPC.**

Discussion followed with program changes in Biological Anthropology and the Physics Concentration and Minor. The Physics programs are adding AST 2002, Honors Introduction to Astronomy, to the elective tables. Chair Sorge noted that AST 2002 is not allowed for students in the Physics program in Boca and questioned its inclusion in the honors programs. After some discussion, it was determined this course would be acceptable since it will be a choice among several electives and the major in the Honors College is not strictly a Physics major. In the Honors College, the major is Biological and Physical Sciences. **The UUPC approved the program changes.**

<a href="#">ANT 2410</a> <a href="#">Support</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Culture and Society (HC); Culture and Society (AL)	3	Change description	
<a href="#">EVR 1001</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Environmental Science and Sustainability	3	Change description	
<a href="#">HUM 2020</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Introduction to Humanities	3	Change description	
<a href="#">LIT 2000</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Introduction to Literature	3	Change description	
<a href="#">MUL 2010</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors History and Appreciation of Music	3	Change description	
<a href="#">OCE 2001</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Introduction to Oceanography	3	Change description	
<a href="#">PHI 2010</a>	Honors Introduction to Philosophy	3	Change description	

<a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>				
<a href="#">POS 2041</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a> <a href="#">IFP Approval</a>	Honors Government of the United States	3	Change description	
<a href="#">SPN 2162</a> <a href="#">Support</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a>	Honors Spanish for Healthcare Professions	3	New	
<a href="#">SPN 2221</a> <a href="#">ASL Approval</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a>	Honors Intermediate Spanish Language and Culture 2	3	Add ASL component, change description	
<a href="#">Program</a> <a href="#">Change</a> <a href="#">Support</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a>	Biological Anthropology Concentration		Change elective listing	
<a href="#">Program</a> <a href="#">Change</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a>	Physics Concentration		Add a course to the list of electives	
<a href="#">Program</a> <a href="#">Change</a> <a href="#">UHC Approval</a>	Physics Minor		Add a course to the list of electives	

## 7. Science

Chair Sorge presented four courses with prerequisite changes that are mainly incorporating the new math biology courses approved in a recent meeting. Dr. Donna Chamely-Wiik noted that the RI course syllabus was missing the RI descriptive language and RI Student Learning Outcomes. Chair Sorge offered to reach out to the professor to have those added to the syllabus. **All four courses were approved by the UUPC.** (Following the meeting, the updated syllabus was received.)

<a href="#">MAA 4226</a>	Introductory Analysis 1	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">MAD 2502</a>	Introduction to Computational Mathematics	3	Change prereqs., coreqs., description	
<a href="#">MAP 4103</a>	Applied Mathematical Modeling	3	Change prereqs.	
<a href="#">MAP 4913</a>	RI: Industrial Problems Applied Math	3	Change prereqs.	



8. Admissions, Library, Nursing, and Social Work and Criminal Justice had no reports.

**IV. FINAL DISCUSSION/NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next UUPC meeting is Monday, February 26, from 10 am to noon, in SU 132 or via Zoom.

Steering meeting dates: <https://www.fau.edu/ufsgov/steering-committee/>

University Faculty Senate meeting dates: <https://www.fau.edu/ufsgov/calendar/>

Chair Sorge declared the meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

**Compelling Reasons for the Importance of Foreign Language Study  
(source: Ithaca College)**

Exposure to diverse languages and cultures is a critical component of a quality education, and the benefits of language study are well documented in many essential areas:

- The study of language brings students into contact with people and cultures that are very different from their own, and in a way that encourages respect for diversity. This exposure lowers the barriers that are often at the root of fear and distrust of others. Thus, the knowledge gained from language study contributes to empathy and tolerance towards diverse peoples and reduces prejudice both at home and abroad.
- The study of foreign languages not only broadens students' perspectives of the world, but also imparts a more profound understanding of their own cultures. Exposure to cultures with long histories builds a greater sense of the past within one's own culture as well.
- Foreign language study increases students' skills in the use of English. Often it is in the foreign language classroom that students gain the greatest understanding of grammar and expand on their vocabulary. Learning the linguistic roots of language further deepens these abilities.
- The study of foreign languages enhances listening skills and memory, increases analytical abilities, and builds aptitude in problem solving and working with abstract concepts. It has been shown to enhance the study of other subjects. Abilities in math and English increase, and creativity grows.
- The study of foreign language is a distinct advantage in the professional world. Job candidates who are proficient in more than one language are extremely valuable and have a competitive edge in the U.S. economy, where a large proportion of jobs involve work with immigrants and/or are the result of trade with foreign countries. Students who have studied foreign language have more job opportunities available to them both at home and abroad, in an increasingly global society.
- Graduates often cite language courses as among the most valuable in helping them to increase their communication skills overall in college, allowing them to obtain desirable employment in a wide range of areas. Language study opens doors in countless fields, including business, marketing, government, medicine, technology, law, and the military.
- The study of foreign languages and cultures leads students to become more responsible and committed global citizens. It reduces the barriers to travel and, therefore, encourages continued exposure to other cultures and allows individuals to interact more fully with others.
- The study of diverse languages and cultures is a gateway to greater understanding and appreciation for a wide range of other subjects, including art, music, cuisine, film, science, and philosophy. It educates and broadens the mind in limitless ways and is the true core of a liberal education.