

**Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee – Saint Louis University
UAAC meeting minutes 3/3/22 and UAAC Sub Meeting 3/10/22**

Attendance:

Those in attendance: Rob Wood, Lauren Landfried, Sabrina Tyuse, Shawn Stedman, Gary Bledsoe, Michael Elliott, Elizabeth Goeckel-Blessing, Gina Merys, Laura McLaughlin, Marissa Cope, Merlene Gilb, Leah Sweetman, Tyler DeShon, Paige Allen, Lori Kupsy, Jennifer Rust, Laurie Russell, Gary Barker, Debbie Pike, Amy Harkins

Excused:

Jesse Helton, Ellen Crowell, Sophia Izhar

Associate Provost Rob Wood, PhD, called to order the UAAC meeting at 9:06 am.

Reports/Proposal/Policies from Committee Members:

Doisy College – The Department of Nutrition & Dietetics (1 attachment):

The request is for the following tracks to be added as options for students:

PA Scholars Track option for students in the standard ND Program

PA Scholars Track option for students in the ND Culinary Program

Med Scholars Track option for students in the standard ND Program

Med Scholars Track option for student in the ND Culinary Program

PA Scholars and Med Scholars Options in Existing Standard and Culinary tracks in Bs-Nutrition and Dietetics major. No new resources needed or workload in the department. Pre-PA and Pre-Med tracks already exist in the BS- Nutrition and Dietetics. This change will allow these students to comply with PA scholars and Med Scholars requirements. Any students enrolled in these tracks must also be accepted into the PA scholars and Med Scholars programs, respectively. That process will not change.

We would like to add two additional tracks for the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition & Dietetics entitled: "Nutrition and Dietetics Scholars – Standard Track" and Nutrition and Dietetics Scholars Culinary Track." These are extensions of our existing Standard and Culinary tracks within the B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics.

The design is similar to PA Scholars or Med Scholars where freshmen entry students will have guaranteed acceptance into our Master of Science/Dietetic Internship program upon completion of the B.S. if they maintain the program requirements.

The ND Scholars Tracks will be distinguished by a 3-credit hour capstone experience where they will be paired with a Nutrition and Dietetics faculty mentor for an intensive experience in 1) nutrition science research, 2) culinary arts, or 3) service learning.

Students will benefit from early acceptance into our Master of Science/Dietetic Internship program when national matching rates for this stage are at 65-70%. The Department of Nutrition and Dietetics will benefit by the ability to attract and retain high performing students for their undergraduate and graduate nutrition degrees.

Prospective students seeking to earn their credentials as a Registered Dietitian are required to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics, a Dietetic Internship, and a Master of Science Degree as of

2024 per the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Note, the requirement of a graduate degree is required by ACEND; the strategy of offering an early acceptance track is not required.

After completing the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics, students are eligible to compete in a national matching process for a limited number of dietetic internship spots throughout the country. The current match rate is notoriously low at 65-70%.

The ND Scholars Tracks will enable us to provide freshmen entry-level students the early assurance of knowing they can continue at Saint Louis University in our Master of Science/Dietetic Internship program and do not have to participate in the national matching process. This will help us to attract high performing students and retain them throughout their graduate education at Saint Louis University, similar to the success of the Med Scholars, PA Scholars, and CSD Scholars programs.

We also anticipate this will make the Nutrition and Dietetics program more attractive given the existing and newly accredited nutrition programs in the St. Louis area (Fontbonne, SIUE, Logan University).

Current students will not be eligible to apply for the ND Scholars Program. However, current students are eligible for our Pre-Select Program which they can apply for during their senior year. This functions similarly by providing early acceptance into the Dietetic Internship/Master of Science Program, yet at a later point during their undergraduate tenure. The Pre-Select Program would be appropriate for 1) students who did qualify for the ND Scholars Program as freshmen and 2) transfer students.

Discussion/ highlights regarding the tracks to be options for students at Doisy College in The Department of Nutrition & Dietetics changes were:

The request for the four tracks was reviewed.

- *At the 3-10-22 UAAC Sub-Committee unanimously approved the request for four tracks to be added as options for the students in The Department of Nutrition & Dietetics. Revision/Renaming of Film Studies Minor in Arts & Sciences. There is no further approval process needed.*



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Doisy College – Clinical Health Sciences/Medical Laboratory Sciences – Amy Harkins, PhD (1 attachment):

New entry track to online bridge program from a Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT; AAS/AS degree) to a Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS; BS degree) using existing courses. This will differ from the current online MLS program that permits a transfer student with sixty credit hours to start the existing hybrid online program of didactic/clinical/laboratory coursework, or (ii) a second-degree seeking student.

Change of credit hours required: This entry bridge MLT to MLS track will require thirty-two credit hours of didactic course work plus a variable number of credit hours required for up to ten credit hours for clinical work depending on a student's work experience, for a total of no more than forty-two credit hours. This differs from the current hybrid MLS program that is sixty credit hours through four semesters.

All courses used for this new entry track are existing and no new courses required.

Change in admission requirements: This new entry track requires a student to have a AAS or AS from a NAACLS Accredited MLT program and to be currently working as an MLT (minimum of 0.5 FTE). We also

have a requirement that once started, a student must complete the program within five sequential years. This entry track differs in admission requirements from the hybrid transfer or second-degree option in that all pre-requisites must be met prior to entry with a minimum GPA of a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

New requirements for degree completion: This entry track permits the completion of the MLS degree by completing only the required didactic online courses. The in-seat laboratory courses are not required at all because the MLT AAS/AS degree laboratory courses will directly transfer for this degree. The clinical courses will be accomplished by a student at the place of work with all clinical competencies completed under supervision of their clinical preceptor, approved by the SLU academic program, and accomplished during non-paid working hours.

Discussion highlights regarding the new MLT to MLS Bridge Program were:

Discussion regarding changes to the program requirements from 60 hours to 42 hours. Questions as to is this is the same degree with two different sets of requirements for two separate groups of students? This looks as if they are not getting the transfer credits and/or substitutions. Because the program requirements are blank, there is an assumption they have already had those courses and do not need to take them.

Answer to the above question is yes, this is correct information because any student who is already accredited MLT would have had all the same courses they would have needed for the MLS, (just not at the higher level and a higher detail) we would have taught on-line didactics courses, which is why that is the only requirement to take and In addition to some of the clinical courses they would need to get. We did not fill out the course work because the students already have 90 to 120-credit hours with their Associate degree. They only need to get what is the required level of course work done for being an accredited MLS and the sign-off of the clinical competencies. There is no difference, but their background provides different sets of courses then what we would have in an additional transfer student. There are two pathways shown in the catalog.

The committee today reviewed and discussed the New MLT to MLS Bridge Program. The UAAC sub-committee will review at the March 10th meeting.

- *At the 3-10-22 UAAC Sub-Committee unanimously approved the new MLT to MLS Bridge Program for Doisy College in The Department of Clinical Health Sciences/Medical Laboratory Sciences. There is no further approval process needed.*



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21.22-14-MLT-MLS TI

On-going discussions regarding Micro-Credential Definitions

Ongoing discussions regarding Micro-Credential Definitions and below is a revised copy Jay Haugen distributed to the committee. Further conversation will be on-going.



2022-01 -
Micro-Credential Defi

On-going items of discussions regarding temporary withdrawal policy:

Discussion regarding temporary withdrawal policy where the Provost would be announcing the extension to the withdrawal deadline for the current semester.

Is there a desire for the UAAC/GAAC committees to extend the withdrawal permanently? The committee discussed considering the students who have half-term and the winter students.

The committee did state there are classes that are structured, there are large group activities at the end of the semester and it could be problematic for other classmates if those students decided to use the withdrawal and leave other classmates hanging.

There is going to be further discussion at the UAAC committee meeting on this topic.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 3rd, 2022, UAAC-subcommittee meeting dated March 10th, 2022.

Announcements: Next UAAC Meeting will be on April 7th, 2022.