

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Cigdem Gurgur, Executive Committee Chair
Steve Carr, Voting Faculty

DATE: 23 August 2024

SUBJ: Reinstatement of the French Program

Reinstatement of the French Program

WHEREAS the Office of Academic Affairs suspended the French minor in consultation with the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and the Chair of the Department of International Language and Culture Studies; and,

WHEREAS the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the COLA Dean, and the ILCS Chair reached this decision without first consulting or even notifying ILCS faculty before announcing it publicly; and,

WHEREAS this decision occurred without proper consultation or joint effort with representative faculty bodies at either the College or University levels and through established channels of shared government; and,

WHEREAS consultation among either a few faculty handpicked by administration or administrative appointees who serve at the pleasure of administration do not meet basic standards of shared government and will not suffice for meaningful collaboration and cooperation with elected faculty bodies accountable only to the Faculty; and,

WHEREAS the Purdue University Fort Wayne Constitution of the Faculty grants primary authority and responsibility to the Faculty to review and approve curricula including changes to academic programs; and,

WHEREAS, Purdue University Fort Wayne Senate Bylaws, section 3.A.4.3.3.1., states that it is within the purview of the Curriculum Subcommittee to examine “Administrative or Faculty-led initiatives to reorganize, merge, reduce, or eliminate academic programs or units;”

WHEREAS primary authority and responsibility for the curriculum and academic programs includes primary authority and responsibility for academic minors; and,

WHEREAS [COLA CD 23-09 COLA Curriculum Committee Resolution to Reinstate French Minor](#), ratified and approved by the College’s representative faculty body, called for OAA to unsuspend the French as “a key portion of the COLA curriculum”; and,

BE IT RESOLVED Fort Wayne Senate calls for OAA to unsuspend the French Minor consistent with COLA CD 23-09; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OAA works through established channels of shared government and with relevant representative faculty bodies to effect orderly curricular changes to the French Minor and to COLA and University curricula.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Erik Ohlander, Chair of COLA Executive Committee
FROM: Lee Roberts, Chair of COLA Curriculum Committee
DATE: 4/12/2024
RE: COLA Curriculum Committee Resolution to Reinstate French Minor

WHEREAS, the charge of the COLA Curriculum Committee is stated as: 9.2.2.2.1 Receive and make a recommendation of approval or nonapproval of proposals for new course offerings, new academic programs (as used in this charge, “academic programs” shall include degrees, certificates, majors, and minors), and changes in requirements for academic programs. 9.2.2.2.2 Recommend policy regarding College requirements for academic programs; and

WHEREAS, the suspension of the of the French Minor was not considered by the COLA Curriculum Committee; and

WHEREAS, the chairs of COLA departments deliberated and ranked position requests, including the French Lecturer position and made recommendations to the Dean; and

WHEREAS, the Dean of COLA ranked the French Lecturer first in order of filling; and

WHEREAS, short-term budget crises should not mean short-term personnel decisions affect COLA’s curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Curriculum Committee and College resolved that the International Language and Culture Studies Department make sure instruction provide many options for students to fulfill the International Language Requirement; and

WHEREAS, the French Lecturer position was to include online instruction to meet the Curriculum Committee resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Proposal for the New College of Liberal Arts stated: “Our focus on international language, culture, arts and government mean we will train global citizens;” and

WHEREAS, French is the language spoken in more countries than any other language and is the official diplomatic language of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, the curriculum of the College is controlled by the faculty;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the French Minor be unsuspending and continue to be a key portion of the COLA curriculum.

Approved

Opposed

Absent

Non-Voting

Troy Bassett
Daniel Patten

Richard Weiner

Janet Badia (ex-officio)
Mareitta Frye (ex-officio)

Lee Roberts, Chair
Michael Wolf

Deb Hoile (ex-officio)
Sue Miller (ex-officio)