

3. **Proposal to Create an Interdisciplinary Master of Arts Degree in Asian Studies & Proposal to Create an Asia Center**

Janet Theiss, Director of the Asian Studies Program, presented the proposal to create an interdisciplinary Master of Arts degree in Asian Studies, and the proposal to create an Asia Center.

An interdisciplinary program, a Masters is more appropriate for some students than going directly into the PhD program, for those seeking job-related education who will not be pursuing a PhD, and will be highly compatible for a joint master degree with law, business, economics, etc.

The degree will require three years of intensive language training. The class selection is very flexible, but also has a strong advisory core to ensure that it is truly an interdisciplinary program. To a question of why it should be a stand-alone rather than drawing the degree from an associated department, Dr. Theiss responded that the Asian Studies program would offer an immersion experience with courses in literature, history, economics, language, art, etc. Students will be drawn from a regional pool, and it is unlikely that this degree will take students from other programs.

With the clear possibility that a student could take the majority of their courses from one department, a capstone was suggested to ensure that students must draw from a variety of departments.

The Asia Center is the best way to manage the administration of the degree, as well as a source for fundraising and a sponsor for faculty collaborations.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion: Approve the proposal to create a Master of Arts degree in Asian Studies and to create an Asia Center

Vote: Approved unanimously

Action: Inform the Asian Studies Program of the Council's decision to approve the Masters degree in Asian Studies, and the creation of the Asia Center. Obtain letters of support from the Dean of the College of Humanities, Robert Newman, and the Marriott Library.

4. **Review of the Division of Nutrition, College of Health**

The Ad Hoc Committee Chair presented the report for the Division of Nutrition.

Discussion among the Council began with the state of the faculty. There are three tenure track faculty, with one vacancy, leaving the Division understaffed. The Division should fill the remaining tenure track faculty position. The internal review noted concern regarding the integration of adjunct faculty, and the lack of mentoring.

The small program could gain prominence if a PhD program is added. The external review team suggested the Division of Nutrition merge with the Department of Sports Medicine. The Council agreed that the Division of Nutrition would benefit greatly from collaboration with a larger department.

ACTION TAKEN:

Motion: Approve the review as amended

Vote: Approved unanimously

Action: Upon receipt of the amended report, the report will be discussed at the wrap-up meeting (in attendance: Senior Vice President for Health Sciences; Chair of the Division of Nutrition, and the Dean and Associate Dean of the Graduate School as facilitators). Recommendation #2 will be further discussed at the wrap-up meeting. Following the wrap-up meeting, a Memorandum of Understanding will be prepared by the Associate Dean of the Graduate School. Both the report and the Memorandum of Understanding will be sent to the Senior Vice President of Health Sciences for transmittal to the Academic Senate.