

**COUNCIL OF
DIRECTORS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES**

AGENDA

May 19, 2021

Zoom - <https://zoom.us/j/99545430954>

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

In attendance: Laurie Beets, Chris Bingham, Larry Burns, Aaron Christensen, Brenda Dawes, Chris Francisco, Kathryn Gage, Amy Gazaway, Ebonie Hill, Nick Holmes, Nathan Horton, Diane Jones, Kelly Kavalier, Cheryl Kleeman, James Knecht, Rae Ann Kruse, Amy Martindale, Marissa McIntyre, Marilyn Middlebrook, Lance Millis, Linda Millis, Beverly Morris, Rita Peaster, Libby Reigh, Vincent Rivera, Kyndal Roark, Sky Rogers, Kristi Seuhs, Richard Shepard, Candace Thrasher, Deb VanOverbeke, Denise Weaver, Missy Wikle, Robin Wilson and Jeanette Mendez, Chair.

1. International Teaching Assistant Program – Nathan Horton

ITA Program, housed in the English department, is working with the office of First Year Experience (FYE) to develop programming for new students to aid in the understanding of international teaching assistants.

The ITA exam is required for perspective GTAs 1) whose high school did not include English as their primary language and 2) who received below a specific score on the admissions test. Professional development programs will be offered for all multilingual instructors, teaching assistants (TAs) and faculty to improve testing and training of the graders of the ITA exam, as well as participants who take the test. OSU's goal is to maintain instruction with comprehensible English, as well as provide protection against recourse for the multilingual instructors who have comprehensible English with an accent.

Once fully passed the ITA exam, the ITA instructor can assume instructional activities such as leading labs, leading discussions, giving lectures and holding office hours. If they receive a provisional pass the ITA instructor can engage in instructional activities but they must complete GRAD 5092 – Language in the American Classroom. If they receive a no pass, the ITA may not engage in instructional activities until they have completed GRAD 5082 – oral proficiency training. (They can still grade and prepare lab materials, just not engage with undergraduate students in a communicative way.)

N. Horton explained that the ITA Program is considering the possibility of integrating ITA instructors with New Student Orientation (NSO) – the more a student is exposed to a different accent, the better they will become at understanding it. Improved attitudes toward speech is a worthy goal that should be pursued at OSU. Improved attitudes increase communication.

Recommendation from DSAS members:

1. Short presentation from ITA during NSO about expectations – it is all about exposure to the accent
2. Welcome Week may also be a possibility for exposure
3. First year seminar classes – conversations are needed regarding accents
4. Everything we do to help those new students needs to be reiterated multiple times
5. Study skills / faculty expectation presentation at Welcome Week – inserting this content would be very useful.
6. Request for content for first year seminar courses – especially science majors

2. Seat Release Update – Amy Martindale

Automated seat releases for fall 2021 will operate as follows – seats will be released for the entire first week of NSO and then after that first week seat releases will be available every Tuesday and Thursday.

3. Advisor Student Profile – Rita Peaster

The bio information section within Advisor Student Profile in Self Service contains basic bio / demographic information, along with gender. A gender working group has recommended that gender category be removed from the student

profile because it may cause more confusion with it being present. Data will continue to be available. Feedback from DSAS members indicated their belief that it would be helpful for information to be present as opposed to being used in a negative way. Less information feels less helpful. R. Peaster added that functionality is not available to display personal pronouns yet, however it should be available in the next year or two.

R. Peaster explained that the plan to implement the new version of Self Service will occur in early June. Backend security changes have been made but no substantive appearance changes were made. There is also significant improvement to the CRN to find class details. There is however an issue with the graduation application. In the new version you can still see that the student had an active grad app but the link returns an error. DSAS expressed their opinion to leave the link even though an error will be given if the link is selected. They felt it was better to know at a glance that the student had an active grad app. R. Peaster stated that the error issue has been reported to Elucien but no specific dates have been determined regarding correction.

4. Assignments in Star – Rae Ann Kruse

FYE office is working on retention of the '20 cohort and '21 cohort. There is manpower and time to input financial coaches and campus connection coaches into Star and make assignments through Banner for the class we are onboarding. Most colleges indicated that the new students' primary advisors are being placed in the system either day of or one business day after enrollment. FYE will place their FC and CCCs the Wednesday following the week of enrollment.

R. Kruse also reminded DSAS members that the May 26 transfer student day will be in person.

5. Pre-Professional: Updates & New Resources for Entire OSU Community and NSO Usage – Jessica Priddy Bullock

The Pre-Professional Health and Law Support Services (including all premed, pre vet majors, and prelaw majors) has a new website with a new platform. The new website contains a video series, starting with the new student welcome video on the home page, followed by the pre health option and the prelaw option video series as follows:

Pre Health video

- What is Pre Health video
- Finding Your Major video
- Major Resources video
- Pre Professional Resources video
- Next Steps video

Pre Law video

- What is Pre Law video
- Finding Your Major video
- Major Resources video
- Pre Professional Resources video
- Next Steps video

The videos are created to be around one minute in length – quick and easy.

Members of DSAS expressed their concern in the lack of visibility of this site. Brand Management will need to assist in making this site visible to all individuals who search “premed” or “prelaw”.

Pre-professional seminar courses are open and available to any student in any major.

6. Transfer/Veteran Success Updates including ETI Grant Info – Cheryl Kleeman

Transfer Update - C. Kleeman thanked all individuals who assisted with the ETI grant. There are additional agreements that have been signed, while some are still in the process. Information from Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) will also be forthcoming. NOC Stillwater will provide OSU with a list of students and their majors who have completed 24 credit hours. Those lists will be distributed to the academic colleges so that contact with the gateway students can be initiated. OSU will also be receiving a list of NOC students who have completed 30 credit hours in their intended majors and an opportunity for connection after 45 credit hours so that those students can be connected to OSU and their degree program, making sure they are ready to transfer.

Veteran Update - V. Rivera reported that the veteran faculty and staff association officer elections were recently finalized. The officers are as follows: president – Tom Joyce, vice president - Norb Delatte, secretary - Cindy Rice, treasurer - Kim Southworth, student veteran liaison - V. Rivera. The VFSA is a resource to help our fellow staff / faculty veterans. The Student Veteran Success office is working hard to make sure that our veteran students are getting the best experience possible at OSU.

V. Rivera reminded DSAS members that the veteran event in November – American flag planting - will be returning to its original size and scope (7,000+). Campus wide assistance will be appreciated.

7. Other

- L. Burns – verified that all members of DSAS received the email regarding the ELPA process / changes – that will be live as of May 20, 2021. He explained the expectation of the incoming student seeking a degree in STEM science. They are required to have a 2.0 from the student's science predicted grade index (PGI). If they do not have a 2.0 they are required to complete remediation prior to taking their first science course at OSU. The Science section of the ELPA Guide is detailed below.

“Science: Completion of a remedial/developmental science reading course (UNIV 0153⁶ at OSU or equivalent) is required when:

- The student's ACT Science subscore is below 19 AND the student's Science PGI is below 2.0, OR
- Curricular deficiencies in science are indicated.

Alternatively, students may meet the science remediation requirement by:

- Scoring 19 or greater on the Science section of the National ACT Exam or the ACT On-Campus Exam,
- Scoring 2.0 or higher on the science PGI², OR
- Successfully completing UNIV 0153⁶ or equivalent.

Students with enrollment restrictions due to a science remediation requirement may enroll in certain college-level science courses if they are concurrently enrolled in UNIV 0153⁶.

C. Francisco mentioned the possibility of developing a corequisite with Biology for the future. DSAS members indicated their agreement.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50am

Minutes were recorded by K. Roark