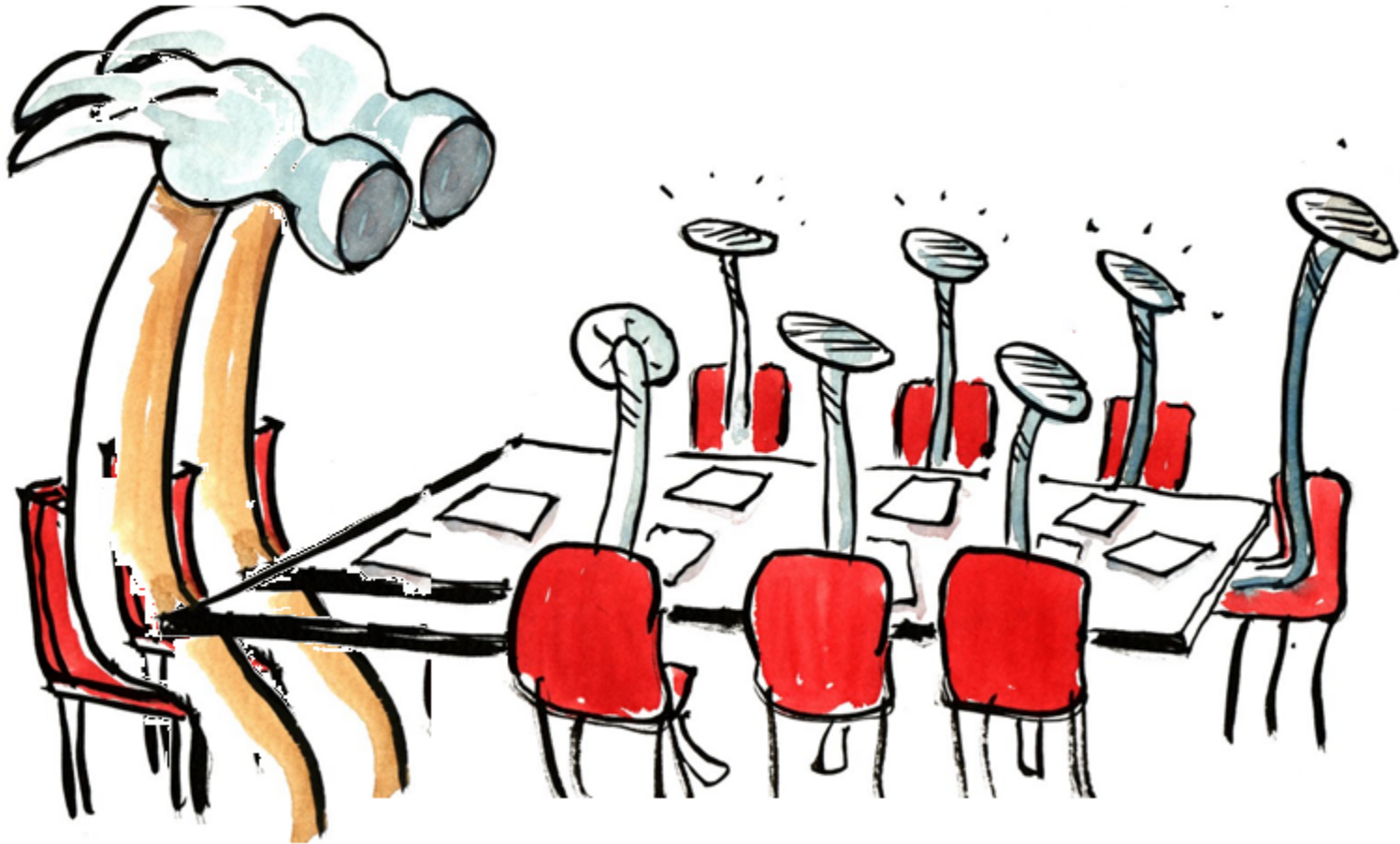


Curriculum Council



John Bailey and Prem Mathew, Co-Chairs
December 8, 2016

Proposal:

New Undergraduate Certificate in Scientific, Technical and Professional Communication

CPS# 94924; CIP 09.0908

Oregon State University

College of Liberal Arts (CLA)

School of Arts and Communication (SAC)

School of Writing, Literature, and Film (SWLF)

New Undergraduate Certificate in Scientific, Technical, and Professional Communication Proposal

Coursework: (at least 28 credit hours)

two required courses (Scientific Writing and Technical Writing);
at least 12 credits of core classes;
one 3- or 4-credit WIC course (from their primary program);
up to 6 credits of Writing and Communication electives; and
a one-credit portfolio course.

Faculty / Program Administration: Program will be delivered by current SWLF and SAC faculty as all the courses, except the portfolio course, are currently offered. Program anticipates the need for a 0.25 FTE support staff member (coordinating and advising).

New Undergraduate Certificate in Scientific, Technical, and Professional Communication Proposal

Anticipated Headcount: 35 students enrolled by 2020, with ~13 certificates awarded each year from 2020.

Letters of Support/Liaison: Provided from Michigan State, Purdue and current students. Liaison from across campus, including Science, Engineering, Ag. Sci., Forestry, and CEOAS are supportive of the proposed program, and see value to their students of the program.

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2016

CC Review and Vote: CC has reviewed and has unanimously voted to approve the program (June 7, 2016).

New Undergraduate Certificate in Scientific, Technical, and Professional Communication Proposal

Summary: The SWLF and SAC propose an interdisciplinary undergraduate certificate, which must be taken in conjunction with a degree program, in response to growing student and faculty interest in scientific and technical communication. The core will consist of courses in Writing, Communications, and New Media Arts. These courses are production-oriented and focused on writing and communication skills that students will transfer into other work. The program is capped by a one-credit course focused on the creation of a portfolio of technical and scientific communication materials that will be valuable for students as they begin their careers. The program will be delivered on-campus as well as through Ecampus.

Rationale:

* This proposed certificate program will be the only undergraduate certificate program in Oregon, at a university renowned for its scientific and technical programs, and in an area (the Silicon Forest) increasingly known for its environmental and technological research and innovation.

* The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) states that the “employment of technical writers is projected to grow 15% from 2012 to 2022.”

* The Society for Technical Communication (STC)’s 2012-2013 Salary Database shows that 46,160 technical writers were employed in the US, with approximately 15 % of the jobs in the Pacific Northwest.