Bylaws for Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program Council
Central Michigan University

ARTICLE I

Name
The Council governing the interdisciplinary program in Language Arts shall be the Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program Council.

ARTICLE II

Program Philosophy, Rationale and Objectives

The Interdisciplinary Program in Language Arts provides students with a comprehensive experience which, combined with the required courses in the Professional Education Program, offers theoretical and subject matter background, appropriate methodological orientation, and actual classroom experience needed to be a well-qualified teaching candidate. Consistent with program policy, State of Michigan Core Curriculum Frameworks and NCATE standards, the CLEAR Conceptual Framework is its underlying philosophical and structural guide. The CLEAR model is Concept and knowledge driven, LEArner centered and oriented toward Reflective practice in diverse roles and settings. As such, it embodies the objectives of an accredited teacher-preparation program in Language Arts:

a) to master Language Arts subject area knowledge, including knowledge of diverse literatures and cultures;
b) to understand the sociocultural contexts in which Language Arts teaching takes place;
c) to develop analytical and reflective Language Arts teaching practice and engage in ongoing development of teaching skills and professional practices; and
d) to develop classroom methods in Language Arts education based upon articulated, research-based conceptual frameworks.

The professional education program in Language Arts is driven by these concept-based goals and objectives and achieves them through curricular requirements that ensure that students receive a comprehensive education provided by a range of subject-area and professional courses.

ARTICLE III

Council Membership

a) The Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program Council consists of two faculty members from each of the following departments, English Language and Literature, Teacher Education and Professional Development, and Speech, Communication and Dramatic Arts, and one from Communication Disorders. These faculty are appointed by their respective departments for a period of two years, initially staggered for one- and two-year terms. Council members may be reappointed.
years, initially staggered for one- and two-year terms. Council members may be reappointed.
b) One student from the Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program shall be appointed to the Council by Council members for a one year term. The student member is a voting member of the Council.
c) The Chair of the Council and Secretary are regular members of the Council.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

I. Chair

a) The Council will recommend appointment of a Chair to the Deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Human Services and Fine Arts, according to the established requirements below. The program Chair serves as the chair of the Council.

b) The Council Chair is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the program. The Chair is advised by the Council and reports to the Deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Human Services and Communication and Fine Arts and the appropriate department chairs. Duties include the following:

i. Convene meetings of the Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program Council, at minimum one per semester, and an advisory meeting with Program Advisers and Faculty teaching courses in the Program at least once per year.

ii. Serve as a voting member of the Council only in case of a tie.

iii. Consult with the respective department chairs regarding the scheduling of program courses, as necessary.

iv. Coordinate student outcomes assessment activities and prepare annual assessment report in consultation with the Council.

v. Conduct program review as needed, in consultation with the Council.

vi. Report Council activities to the Deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Human Services and Communication and Fine Arts. And the appropriate department chairs.

c) The Chair is appointed to a renewable two year term. The Chair shall be a tenured or tenure-track faculty member from one of the departments associated with the program. Prior to the end of the incumbent’s term, the Council will recommend appointment of a new Chair.
II. Secretary

a) The Chair will appoint a Council Secretary.

b) The Secretary duties include the following

i. Record minutes of all Council meetings

ii. Distribute minutes of Council meeting to the Deans of the Colleges of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education and Human Services and Communication and Fine Arts, appropriate chairs and members of the Council

iii. Serve as a voting member of the Council.

ARTICLE V

Council Charge

The Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program Council is charged with overseeing the Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program. Specific activities of the Council include the following:

a) Curriculum
The Council will initiate and approve curricular changes, including approval of new courses for inclusion in the program. Curricular items approved by the Council will be sent forward to the appropriate departments, college curriculum committees, PECC, UCC, and Academic Senate.

The Council will establish student requirements and forms for signing the major/minor.

The Council will create and oversee program procedures and guidelines, including those for program review and student outcomes assessment.

b) Faculty
Faculty will have the appropriate qualifications for teaching Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program courses as determined by University, Department and/or NCATE standards. At least once per year, a meeting will be held for all advisers and faculty who teach in the Language Arts Interdisciplinary Program to meet with the Council for the purpose of advising the Council regarding the program. The Council is responsible for establishing the agenda for the annual meeting.
ARTICLE VI

Committees

The Council may establish committees to carry out the objectives of the Council. Committees shall be formed by the Council or at the request of the Chair with a majority vote of the Council.

ARTICLE VII

Parliamentary Authority

Parliamentary authority shall be by Robert's Rules.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendment of Bylaws

All changes to these bylaws, to the program status, and/or to the administrative structure of the program shall be by two-thirds majority vote of the Council.

1/28/08