Applied Learning Workgroup Charter

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I. Purpose:

The Applied Learning Workgroup (ALW) is established to research, develop, and propose a model(s) for Applied Learning (AL) at EWU, moving toward requiring each student to participate in some form of applied learning before their degree is granted. The broader goals of students' engagement in AL are to help them identify and refine their career goals, prepare to begin their careers, and develop professional identities. The ALW will research best practices nationwide, develop a model or models that work(s) for EWU faculty, students, staff, and regional employers, and work with the Faculty Organization and appropriate committees to craft and approve academic policy surrounding the initiative. Additionally, the ALW will collaborate with university administrators to identify resources appropriate for systems and structures to support the AL programs. As part of this effort, AL will consider and support the initiative to re-start, fund, and staff the Office of Community Engagement at EWU.

II. Composition:

The Applied Learning Workgroup should consist of volunteer faculty members with experience managing existing experiential learning programs at EWU and/or their experience working with policy in the EWU Academic Senate. At least one faculty member from each college should be included. The workgroup will also include senior and mid-level administrators with key roles in establishing a new experiential learning program and experience building such programs in the past. The goal is to have members with diverse backgrounds and experiences across EWU. The roster will be updated as it changes and is included at the end of this document.

III. Term of Service:

Members of the Applied Learning Workgroup volunteer to serve from June 2024 until October 2027, at which time the faculty composition of the workgroup and terms of service shall be reevaluated by the Academic Senate. Initially, the group's work will involve researching best practices. Following this, the focus will shift to model development, then to proposal and approval stages. Once approved, the implementation phase will commence, concluding with providing ongoing support and expertise to administrators, staff, and faculty responsible for executing the plan.

IV. Responsibilities:

- Best Practices Research: Review what other institutions are doing with required experiential learning programs and recommend practices that would work well for EWU, including defining AL as it relates to this project.
- Take Inventory of our Current Applied Learning Programs

- Develop an Organizational Chart and Determine Resources Needed: Include all resources, human and capital, to establish and adequately staff/fund the program. Inform the annual legislative budget request made by the President.
- Develop AL Model(s): Develop policy language draft a proposal that would require some form of experiential learning for all undergraduate EWU students.
- Serve as an Advisory Group for Program Launch: The group will stay together to help solve problems as the program launches and grows.
- Communication/Promotion: Facilitate communication and promotion of the program within members' academic and administrative units and beyond. Support for the program will be needed from all corners of the EWU and regional communities.
- Strategic Planning: Ensure that the AL plan aligns with and supports the EWU Strategic Plan.
- Policy Review: Review AL policies and recommend revisions or updates as needed.

V. Meetings:

The ALW shall meet once a month for two hours during the summer quarter of 2024. Meetings will increase to twice per month during the 2024-2025 school year. Meeting patterns for future terms, if needed, will be discussed within the group.

VI. Reporting:

The Applied Learning Workgroup shall provide regular updates to the President, Faculty Senate, and Student and Academic Affairs Leadership on its activities, recommendations, and proposals.

VII. Current Roster (last updated on 11/1/2024)

Lorenzo Smith - Provost – Co-Chair
Chris Tyllia - Art Faculty – Co-Chair
Jessica Boyer - Communications Studies Faculty
Melinda Breen - Design Faculty
Jackie Coomes - Vice Provost
Gina Gendusa - Director, Student Success Collaborative & Degree Completion
Lea Jarnigan - Vice President for Student Affairs
Ashley Lamm - Chemistry Faculty
John Mangiantini - Career Center Director
Luis Matos - Biology Faculty
??Cesar Portillo - Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Vice President for Advancement
Esteban Rodriguez-Marek - Electrical Engineering Faculty
Julia Smith - Anthropology Faculty
Kandi Teeters - Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships
Paul Weed - Director of Planning & Budget, Academic Affairs
One Faculty Member from CPP
One Faculty Member from CHSPH