In attendance: Paul Jaeger, Faith Rusk, Tyler Vachon, Mega Subramaniam, Lindsay Sarin, Jeff Waters, Ann Weeks, Ursula Gorham

Action Items

**YX Specialization Proposal – Unanimously approved**

* Mega presented the final proposal for the YX Specialization which featured:
  + Reduced required YX-specific coursework to three courses;
  + Specialization pathways;
  + LBSC, INST, INFM courses, as well as classes at the College of Education; and
  + All online courses.
* Important things to note about the specialization are:
  + YX is a separate specialization but courses overlap with the School Library (SL) specialization.
  + Youth umbrella term for both the SL and YX specializations.

**INST XXX – Facilitating Youth Learning in Formal and Informal Environments Proposal – Unanimously Approved**

* This course is an update of LBSC 640 School Librarians as Information Professionals, in order to broaden the course to include learning in formal and informal environments.
* Accreditation/learning outcome requirements met by LBSC 640 will remain in place for the new course.
* The approved course will go to the Maryland State Department of Education for certification.

**Course Retirements – Unanimously Approved**

* The following courses were retired from the Graduate Catalog so as to reflect accurate course offerings in the MLS program. Courses retired have not been offered regularly or at all for several years. Retiring them will alleviate confusion among incoming students and better convey the strengths of the MLS program.  
  + LBSC 488 Recent Trends and Issues in Library and Information Services
  + LBSC 627 Older Adults and Information
  + LBSC 698 Children’s Information Technology and Policy
  + LBSC 750 Information Access in Electronic Environments
  + LBSC 751 Information Access in the Humanities
  + LBSC 752 Information Access in the Arts
  + LBSC 753 Information Access in the Social Sciences
  + LBSC 756 Information Access in Science and Technology
  + LBSC 758 Special Topics in Information Access
  + LBSC 762 Information Access in the Health Sciences
  + LBSC 764 Access to Legal information
  + LBSC 767 Access to Federal Government Information
  + LBSC 790 Building the Human Computer Interface
  + LBSC 794 Principles of Software Evaluation
* LBSC 499 Workshops, Clinics, and Institutes – was not retired so that it remains an option for instructors for either graduate or the new undergraduate program. Should it be needed in the future it will need to be restructured and converted to an INST course.

**Proposal to change INST 641 Policy Issues in Digital Curation – Unanimously approved**

* Katie Shilton has updated the INST 641 syllabus and course description to better reflect the course’s content. No committee offered feedback or commentary.

**MLS Program Name Change – Unanimously approved**

* A Master of Library and Information Science degree title is more reflective of the fields that the program prepares students for than the MLS. Changing the name will address requests from students, better reflect the program structure and learning outcomes, bring the College inline with industry standards, and correct the name discrepancy with the University and the State of Maryland.
* The request but will have to go to the PCC, Assembly, the Graduate School PCC, likely to the Graduate School Senate, and potentially to the University Senate.

**Discussion Items**

**Committee Charge & Actionable Projects**

* The Committee was given a charge to create and oversee five or more actionable projects for the 2015-2016 academic year. The actionable projects are:
  1. **YX Specialization** – Shepherding the specialization through University approvals and actively recruiting new students.
  2. **Diversity and Inclusion** – Continuing to build the Program and College’s reputation as leaders in diversity and inclusion with initiatives including:
     1. CIDLIS – The 2015 Conference on Inclusion and Diversity in Library & Information Science.
     2. A grant proposal with the University Libraries and iSchool liaison – Tahirah Akbar-William, to create a summer institute with underrepresented high school students, primarily from lower socioeconomic positions, to give them a “mini-college experience.”
     3. Continued development of diversity recruitment strategies.
  3. **Re-Envisioning the MLS** – The Re-Envisioning the MLS initiative covers entire scope of the 2015-2016 Charge. The next year of Re-Envisioning the MLS will bring:
     1. Projects focused around developing new curriculum, promoting conferences through presentations, and many others. We will also recommend that the Re-Envisioning project could be incorporated into the November State of the College.
     2. The program will work with communications staff in the College to build out web content and recruitment materials that are not text-based including a video series featuring current students and alumni talking about their experiences at the iSchool.
     3. The MLS program will develop a new model of the program that emphasizes four cornerstones. This model will be used to reframe program marketing as well as course content. Reframing the program this way will help make the strengths and purpose of the program clear to outsiders. The cornerstones are:
        1. Archives & Digital Curation
        2. Leadership & Advocacy
        3. Rights & Justice
        4. Youth
  4. **Establishing Career Focus:** which is an evolution of the MLS program’s job workshop series that has been around for several years and offers students a variety of professional development events both online and in-person. The program will also work with faculty in Core classes in an effort to better integrate Career Focus and other professional development activities into course curriculum. (A dedicated career-focused staff member within Student Services would provide excellent career advice for students and alumni, and provide the iSchool with an incredibly valuable selling point for prospective students.)
  5. **Core courses** will be aligned with these cornerstones and updated to reflect the core values and competencies identified during the re-envisioning process.
  6. **Program name change**

As outlined above the MLS program will update the program name to better reflect industry standards.

* 1. **Portfolio requirement**

Program staff and the Advisory Board will develop a required “portfolio” that students will build as they progress through the program to use for marketing themselves to future careers after graduation.

* 1. **Field Study changes**
  2. The two field study courses (LBSC 707 and LBSC 703) will be consolidated into a single course. This would be in line with the MLS Core, which also offers the same courses regardless of specialization.
  3. One session of the consolidated course will be offered by an archives/digital curation focused faculty member, but the syllabus would be standardized across sections.
  4. The Committee will need to identify possible faculty members to teach these sections, and ask the Advisory Board what they envision for assignments for the consolidated course.
  5. The discussion turned to impacts that this will this have on the Experiential Learning Expo, which will be considered as the courses are revised.
     1. There are concerns where the in-person section may be required to participate in the Experiential Learning Expo, but online students may not. This creates two sets of requirements.
     2. The in-person poster session could be preserved, but students in either section could have the option to create an online presentation. Posters, as well as an elevator pitch for their experience could be placed onto the Field Study Database.

The next meeting of the MLS Programming Committee will be Wednesday, September 30th, 2015.