

Curriculum Committee

Minutes of the September 7, 2018 Meeting

Present: Bill Barry, Peggy Burge, Alva Butcher, Kathleen R Campbell, Julie Christoph, Regina Duthely, Nick Gerard, Kent Hooper, Nate Jacobi, Julia Looper, Gary McCall, Geoff Proehl, Holly Roberts, Doug Sackman, Maria Sampen, Leslie Saucedo, Jeff Tepper, Courtney Thatcher, Chris Kendall (Senate Liaison)

The meeting was called to order by Senate Liaison Chris Kendall at noon.

1. Leslie Saucedo was elected as chair, by acclamation
2. Meeting time will be Fridays at noon, ideally in a location that allows food, and we will try to use Wednesdays at noon for subcommittees, when possible.
3. Christoph volunteered to do minutes at this first meeting, but at future meetings, we will rotate minutes alphabetically by last name, starting with Proehl at the next week (omitting ex-officio and student members).
4. Kendall introduced the Curriculum Committee charges:

Charge 1: Develop formal guidelines for distinguishing between activity credits and academic credits.

Charge 2: Propose mechanisms for programs and faculty to provide the curriculum committee with feedback to completed core area reviews so as to improve the curriculum.

Charge 3: Consider the Curriculum Committee's role in reviewing course and program proposals, and develop mechanisms for engaging faculty and programs proactively early in the design process.

Charge 4: Complete the review of the standard workflow of the Curriculum Committee to consider how to streamline course approval and fulfill other standing charges related to the review of courses and programs while providing necessary vetting and faculty control of curriculum.

It is possible that the committee will receive an additional charge over the course of the year, as work on the Strategic Plan continues.

5. Christoph announced the reviews coming up for this year:
 - Bioethics
 - Chemistry
 - Classics
 - Environmental Policy and Decision Making
 - Gender and Queer Studies
 - Math/Computer Science
 - Neuroscience
 - Foreign Language Requirement

Upper-Division Requirement
Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry (continued)

6. The committee discussed a variety of questions about process, including the following:
 - How can we deal with the routine and also react to things that arise emergently during the year?
 - How can we make progress on the big-picture ideas and not focus exclusively on the routine work of the committee?
 - What is the current state of the Author Your Future plan? What are its components?
 - How can we be proactive in discussing the Strategic Plan?
 - How can we better showcase teaching and learning in PeopleSoft?
 - What is the student role?

The committee discussed briefly the high points of the faculty retreat on the Strategic Plan of August 23 and also the September 5 Faculty Meeting. The committee was in agreement that we should not be the body that makes determinations about curricular changes as part of the Strategic Plan; however, because the curriculum is central to our work, we would like to have regular updates from our Senate Liaison (this semester, Chris Kendall) about the Senate's work with the Plan.

Our discussions of Curriculum Committee process will continue at the next meeting on September 14, when Saucedo and Christoph will propose some ways of organizing our time and processes as a committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:42.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Julie Christoph.