

**Curriculum Committee Minutes**  
**April 7, 2003**

**Present:** Anderson-Connelly, Barry, Beck (Chair), Clark, Derryberry, Hale, Jasinski, Kline, Notrica, Rogers, Rousslang, Sable, Sackman, Washburn

Beck called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

• **Approval of the Minutes of the March 31, 2003 meeting**

Postponed until the next meeting.

• **Writing and Rhetoric Seminar subcommittee report**

Sackman noted that one course was currently under review.

• **Scholarly and Creative Inquiry Seminar subcommittee report**

**Barry M/S/P Approval of "Politics and Government 131: Islam in its Contexts."**

Barry briefly described a course submitted by a new faculty member (Carl Bonura).

• **Communication and Theatre Arts announcement**

Barry announced that the Department of Communication and Theater Arts will be separating into two departments. He noted that this was largely an administrative division.

Discussion followed: A question was raised as to whether there were more issues involved.

Rousslang responded that one of the issues involved the different evaluation procedures and expectations for Communication versus Theater Arts faculty. Kline inquired if there were program considerations involved. Barry responded that the Department felt that greater administrative efficiency would be brought to the decision making process. In some respect, this formal division would amount to a codification of a de facto separation, he added. Jasinski noted that in the past issues had come up in the evaluation procedure, involving such areas as how each side of the Department defined professional growth. Doing these evaluations prompted a rethinking of the entire structure of the Department, he said. Beck asked if the Department had begun as one unit, and if so, why? Jasinski responded that in his understanding they had been united from the beginning, and that, historically, Communication and Theater Arts had been unified by the centrality of performance to each discipline. But that was no longer the case.

• **Curriculum Committee Procedures subcommittee appointments and charges.**

Beck announced the formation of a subcommittee to work on the only 2 of the Curriculum Committee's 7 charges that had as yet not been fully addressed.

They are:

1. The fallow year assessment of core procedures. Especially, what is the rhythm and nature of the core review.

and

2. Should Departmental reviews be held every 7 instead of every 5 years?

Derryberry, Hale, and Barry were appointed to the Subcommittee together with Jasinski, who will serve as chair.

- **Other subcommittee reports and updates**

Asian Studies and Theater Arts review subcommittees will be meeting soon.

- **Foreign Language graduation requirement**

Reopened discussion of the tabled motion by Anderson-Connelly from the March 27, 2003 meeting. The motion reads as follows:

*The Curriculum Committee directs the University Registrar to approve the following as satisfying the CommIIB core: two successfully-completed college-level semester courses of ASL, provided the courses in question (1) aim to develop proficiency in ASL (with a special emphasis on signing and comprehension) and (2) satisfy sections III and IV of the Comm IIB guidelines.*

Beck made three points of clarification regarding the implementation of the motion should it be passed.

1. Implicit in the motion's passage is the assumption that the American Sign Language community has sufficient *culture* to fulfill the current Core's Communication 2, Option B's Guideline III ("A Foreign Language course should develop proficiency in the target language within the context of the target culture"). If the course does not address sufficiently the requirements under Guideline III, that should be judged as the fault of the course, not the ASL community.

2. After the Senate's oversight of the Curriculum Committee's action on this matter is complete, the directive would take effect immediately because this would be a clarification of an existing guideline, not a modification.

3. Under Guideline IV of the Communication 2, Option B's guidelines, reference is made to having students "listen." For the purposes of this motion, "listen" is assumed to mean "comprehend."

Discussion of the Motion: It was noted that copies of this motion and a similar one that would apply to the new core had been sent to interested faculty not on the Curriculum Committee. Barry reported that Orlin, of the Diversity Committee, and Largent, who drafted the original letter bringing this issue to the attention of the Senate and the Curriculum Committee, both expressed their support for the motions. Beck reported that Rocchi had communicated to him that both motions met with the approval of the Department of Foreign Languages & Literature.

Anderson-Connelly noted that Foreign Languages would not have the necessary expertise to administer and assess competence. Beck noted that Rocchi had reported that Ivey West knows of a local resource that could complete such assessment as needed.

Livingston M/S/P to call the question.

**The motion passed, with one opposed and one abstention.**

**• Anderson-Connelly M/S/P to approve the following:**

*The Curriculum Committee directs the University Registrar to approve the following as satisfying Graduation Requirement G of the Curriculum Statement effective 03/04: (1) two successfully-completed college-level semester courses of ASL at the first-year level or one semester college-level course of ASL at the second-year level or above or (2) passing an ASL proficiency exam at the third-year high school or first-year college level.*

Brief discussion ensued: Sable wondered if the Department of Foreign Languages had seemed to reverse itself on this issue. Barry noted that the motions did not label ASL a “foreign” language, which was its major concern. In response to Washburn’s question about the reference to “03/04” in the motion, she was told that it referred to the next academic year.

**The motion passed, with one opposed and one abstention.**

Meeting adjourned at 1.27 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Sackman