

CurrComm

9 March 2011

Present: B. Tomhave, S. Zopfi, R. Worland, E. Peine, B. Reich, A. DeMarais, A. Kessel, D. Buescher, R. Allen, T. Kaminsky, A. Mifflin, K. Hooper

Minutes from 2/16/11 distributed at meeting and were M/S/P, as ammended  
(There was unanimous agreement to let the language stand as earlier approved[. ~~for the sake of pre-registration and Bulletin scheduling and to revisit the issue at a later time.~~]

WG 1--Comm 170 Humanistic Approaches. M/S/P [D. Buescher abstains]

WG2-- Comm 106 WR Seminar M/S/P

WG3-- PE Review--more information is being requested by the subcommittee.

HUM 316 Connections M/S/P

HUM 335 Connections M/S/P

Conn 373 Connections--one-time offering M/S/P

WG 4--nothing to report

WG 5--working on Mathematical Approaches

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Partial Academic Credit Courses: haven't had too many before; but the Assoc. Dean has been getting more requests to offer these partial-credit courses. If there end up being a lot more requests, will there be a large number of students needing half-credit courses to graduate, who then ask for fraction-credit-independent-study courses? In the School of Education--recognize there is a need for partial-credit courses. Students often take them (0.25 unit courses) on top of a regular 4-unit load -- saves tuition, for one; often useful for recruiting purposes (in Ed) for another. Also, in the lab sciences, there is often a need for a 0.50 lab course for transfer students to bring them up to pace--don't need, however the entire entry-level course. In PT, quite a few partial-credit courses--offers a lot of variety in a tight curriculum. Definitely lessens the cost for the students. Faculty load.....not really impacted....in fact it helps to even out load discrepancies. OT--several 0.50-credit courses--actually allows for a lot more flexibility. Music--lots of partial-credit courses and many students are routinely at 4.50--need to do this to get through the curriculum in four years. It might be nice to have guidelines--just as this committee developed for independent study courses. Faculty loads do seem to work out. A formula does not seem to work. Some regular courses meet 5x/4x/3x/2x/1x each week -- so why start setting guidelines for partial-credit courses? Alyce thinks just having informal guidelines might at some point have to be generated -- but for now,

she is OK with the current system. Unpaid faculty overload? in most cases. This troubles some--norms this overload--but it seems this is not the case in most departments, in which fractional overloads are common. All the same, having guidelines might save faculty from themselves -- keep them from offering too many partial-credit courses for no extra pay. Why not let a student take a full credit course without having to pay extra?

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Core--Diversity notion. Derek is working on pulling some things together for a future Curr Comm meeting.

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Add a Library colleague to Curr Comm? There is precedent to having staff members on committees--Brad Tomhave, for one, on Curr Comm. Alyce will look into this matter and bring appropriate language to Curr Comm for consideration. Certainly, colleagues present welcomed the idea of the Director of the Library joining Curr Comm. Some colleagues wondered whether the committee would grow in size, with the addition of another staff member, or would the number of faculty members decrease? What about subcommittee duties? Rotate the same as faculty members? Again, Alyce will do what she can to sort some of these issues out.

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M/S/P Adjourn

Minutes by Hooper