

Curriculum Committee  
Minutes  
October 14 2013

Members Present: Rich Anderson-Connolly, Bill Beardsley, Luc Boisvert, Gwynne Brown, Lisa Ferrari (Associate Dean), Lisa Johnson (Chair), Alan Krause, Paul Loeb, Janet Marcavage, Brett Rogers, Mike Spivey, Brad Tomhave (Registrar), Lisa Tucker (student)

1. Call to Order :

The meeting was called to order by its chair at 4:05

2. Remarks from the Chair:

The Chair had no remarks to share.

3. Minutes of September 30 2013:

M/S/P: Approve the minutes of 9/30/2013 as read.

4. Working Group Reports

Groups 1,2, and 5 are continuing to work on their assigned tasks

Group 3 passed on a request from the Department of Classics to delay submission of their review until November 1, 2013. This was approved by the Committee

Loeb, for Group 4, presented 6 new SSI-2 seminars for which they recommend approval:

- 1) 123, "The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence," Bernard Bates, Physics Dept
- 2) 143, "Controversies of Communication and Technology," Nicholas Brody, Communication Studies Dept
- 3) 161, "Infinity and Paradox," Douglas Cannon, Philosophy Dept
- 4) 151, "The Natural History of Dinosaurs," Kena Fox-Dobbs, Geology Dept
- 5) 149, "Creationism vs. Evolution in the United States," Kristin Johnson, Science, Technology, and Society Program

6) 152, "The Inquisition, from the Middle Ages to the New World," Michelle Garceau, History Dept

M/S/P that the Committee approves these six SSI-2 seminars

5. Consideration a policy change that would allow students to complete two degrees simultaneously

On behalf of the Academic Standards Committee, Tom have led a discussion of the history of this proposal. It stems from recent decisions made by the petitions subcommittee to grant two degrees simultaneously to individual students on an *ad hoc* basis. The desire is to work with this Committee to draft a policy.

Discussion turned to how best to consult with colleagues on the ASC.

M/S/P that the Chair approach the ASC to discuss forming a joint subcommittee to discuss this matter and perhaps formulate such a policy.

Johnson, Anderson-Connolly and Beardsley volunteered to serve as the Committee representatives on any joint subcommittee.

A "straw poll" was conducted:

That the Committee supports a policy that would allow students who have earned a minimum of 40 units and have satisfied all other graduation requirements to earn two bachelor's degrees simultaneously.

The results were:

Aye 10

Nay 2

Abstain 2.

6. Other business

Brown, on behalf of working group 3, offered two issues for future discussion concerning the questions posed to Departments preparing their Five year Curricular Review:

1. Re: question #3: Given how majors have grown over the years, is it appropriate to maintain the nine unit basis for a major and to ask Departments to justify any additional requirements?
2. Re: question #6: Given that the Committee is charged to examine the curriculum, is it appropriate for them to review diversity efforts in hiring and recruitment?

Ferrari offered some historical background on question #6, discussing its origins in the Committee on Diversity.

7. M/S/P to adjourn

The Committee will reconvene on October 28, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Beardsley