

Curriculum Committee

Minutes of the October 2, 2015 Meeting

Present: Richard Anderson-Connolly (Chair), Robert Beezer (Secretary), Luc Boisvert, David Chiu, James Evans, Lisa Ferrari, Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Pat Krueger, Janet Marcavage, Gabe Newman, Kieran O’Neil, Elise Richman, Brad Tomhave, John Woodward.

Visitors: Lisa Hutchinson.

The meeting was called to order by ANDERSON-CONNOLLY at 1:02 PM in the McCormick Room.

The minutes of the September 18, 2015 meeting were approved, with two minor corrections.

Working Group 2 Report BOISVERT reported that their group would have their first meeting immediately after this one. There are three SSI course proposals to consider in advance of upcoming registration for Spring semester. They will also be considering an interdisciplinary minor.

Working Group 3 Report RICHMAN reported that they have begun working on the Psychology Department Five-Year review, and they will continue this review in their next meeting.

Working Group 4 Report KONTOGEOGPOULOS brought forward four course proposals for approval.

Connections 375, *The Art and Science of Color*, proposed by Professors Elise Richman (Art) and Dan Burgard (Chemistry). **Action:** Approved.

History 383, to be re-titled *Borderlands/La Frontera: The U.S.–Mexico Border*, for the KNOW requirement, proposed by Professors Doug Sackman (History) and John Lear (History). **Action:** Approved.

Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 135, *Hurricane Katrina and the History of New Orleans*, for the KNOW requirement, proposed by Professor Nancy Bristow (History). This proposal generated much discussion about a first-year seminar meeting a graduation requirement. The Curriculum Statement (Spring 2014 revision) says about the SSI seminars, “These seminars may be taken only to fulfill core requirements.” And about the KNOW requirement, “Courses may also fulfill other program or graduation requirements.” EVANS suggested it would be helpful to determine the intent when the KNOW requirement was first instituted. The particular course proposal was tabled to

allow for investigation of having an SSI core course also meet the KNOW graduation requirement. **Action:** Tabled.

Sociology and Anthropology 101, *Introduction to Sociology*, for the KNOW requirement, proposed by Professor Ben Lewin (Sociology), in consultation with others who also teach this course. **Action:** Approved.

Working Group 1 Report EVANS brought forward the *Comparative State Politics and Policy* which features an internship at the Washington State Legislature. Professor Robin Jacobson has been responsive to the group's suggestions and requests for expanded materials. The current proposal is for the internship (which is not part of the committee's duties) concurrent with a 1-unit course in Olympia in the first half of Spring semester featuring seminars that are part of the internship program, but with guidance and supervision by UPS faculty. This would be followed by a separate 1-unit "double-time" course on-campus after midterm.

The necessary forms and materials for the two separate courses are not fully prepared, since originally the program had been proposed as a 2-unit course. So, after some discussion, it was decided to move approval as a pilot course for one year, contingent on receipt of completed proposals and forms for both of the courses. **Action:** Approved.

EVANS inquired about how teaching units were being expended, generally, for courses such as this one. FERRARI responded that this was a decision for the Dean.

In the course of the report of Working Group 2, RICHMAN suggested that there were numerous outstanding course proposals that should be approved in advance of November's registration for Spring semester, and maybe the full committee should meet next on October 9. And so it will be. The effect on the remainder of the committee's schedule will be determined later.

Delegation to the Associate Deans' Office Associate Dean FERRARI presented the "The Functions of the Associate Deans' Office in Curricular Matters." This document prescribes those activities that the committee delegates to the Associate Deans' for administrative action, while also explicitly listing some activities the committee will perform. A report of administrative actions is made monthly to the committee (and faculty at large) for review.

This document is approved annually by the committee. KONTOTHEOPOULOS reiterated that he believes name changes of programs (undertaken by the Dean) should be reported to the committee, even if informally. ANDERSON-CONNOLLY wondered if program name changes were the responsibility of the committee, and perhaps it was a question the Professional Standards Committee could take up. No formal action was taken on this topic.

RICHMAN expressed concern about one of the delegated actions, "(2) approval of revision to major/minor requirements." More specifically a major/minor might require more units of their students (for which there are limits), or require new courses that have a material impact on other departments. After some discussion about how to change the wording of the delegated action, BEEZER suggested that instead the committee add a new item to the list of "reserved" actions in the previous section. Discussion ended with ANDERSON-CONNOLLY requesting suggestions of new wording and it would be considered at a later meeting. **Action:** Continued.

FERRARI made her actual report of administrative actions for the period May 13–August 21, which had been distributed prior on the `facultycoms` email list. 63 courses were affected; 19

removed, 8 added, 11 title changes, 12 descriptions changed, 3 renumbered, 10 prerequisite changes, and 2 new KNOW requirement approvals from the summer working group of last year's committee. KONTOGEOURGOPOULOS asked if any new course proposals had been denied. FERRARI said none had.

The motion to adjourn was made by MARCAVAGE, professor of Art, at 2:02 PM. The next meeting of the full committee will be October 9.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Beezer