

Curriculum Committee Minutes
April 28, 1999

Present: Barnett, Cannon, Goleeke, Grunberg, Hooper, Livingston, Mehlhaff (Chair), Proehl, Stevens, Sugimoto, Warning, Bartanen, Tomhave, Washburn
Absent: Kirkpatrick, Kline, Pinzino, Heavner

Mehlhaff began the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Minutes. **Warning M/S/P to approve the minutes for the meeting of 21 April 1999 as posted.**

Commendations and thanks. Washburn announced that while some of the refreshments were left from the Chism Seminar the mainstay of the bounty was ordered for the committee as an expression of thanks to colleagues for their work this year and to give a good send-off to Associate Dean Kris Bartanen, who will become Vice President for Student Affairs in August. Bartanen commended the chair, and Mehlhaff thanked the secretary and the whole committee. A round of applause accompanied each acknowledgment.

Subcommittees

CLASSICS. Proehl distributed copies of the document proposing a Classics major and explained that the process of deliberation included exchanges between the subcommittee and the Classics chair dealing with issues such as 11 units (more than the 9-unit guideline for a major) in Track I and 10 units in Track II of the proposed major, writing in the major, and coordination with faculty from other academic units who will teach in the Classics major. Proehl praised the "strong proposal" and recommended approval.

ACTION: Proehl M/S/P approval of the addition of a Classics major as outlined in the proposal.

Proehl pointed to some specific components of the proposed major as different from the current program in Classics: (1) Track I - Classical Studies and Track II - Greek or Latin Language, (2) the inclusion in each track of Classics 400 – Senior Thesis, (3) Latin 301 as a replacement of Latin 202, and (4) Greek 301 as a new course. Bartanen explained that Latin 301 and Greek 301 will be repeatable; these courses will accommodate students at varied levels of advanced study of the language.

Discussion clarified that approval of the proposed major would affirm the Classics program as a department. Bartanen reminded that several years ago the committee considered a previous proposal for a Classics major but rejected the proposal in large part because at the time Classics had only two faculty appointments; the addition of Molly Pasco-Pranger increases the Classics faculty to three. Bartanen added that she had consulted Dean Terry Cooney with regard to the 11 and 10 units in Tracks I and II, respectively; while the Dean might prefer 10 units in each track, he would not oppose whatever is the committee's vote on the proposal. Later the committee addressed the issue of the number of units in each track and saw no need to reduce the requirement in Track I from 11 units to 10 units. Hooper spoke in support of the motion and said that he had no objection to the 11 units in Track I; in fact, he said, Track I could have even more than 11 units because they include language courses. Barnett and Stevens pointed out that in each track courses come from multiple departments. Washburn added that as the university seems to have moved from the guideline 9 units in the major to 10 units in the major as "usual" the added unit generally has been a senior thesis or project.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR. Mehlhaff and Hooper worked over the responses to the faculty poll sent out by the subcommittee in an information-gathering effort to determine concerns about the current calendar for the fall semester. Mehlhaff said that he received 110 responses, with approximately two-thirds (two to one) of the responses in favor of doing something to change the

fall calendar. This suggests a need to put calendar revision on the committee's agenda for next year.

In offering his analysis of the responses Hooper said that the number of classes after the Thanksgiving break seems *not* to be the problem with the fall term. Instead, the problem seems to be a need for a fall break of longer duration. Responses seem to indicate that holding final examinations on Saturday and Sunday in order to make up days for a longer fall break would be acceptable, as would starting the fall semester earlier. Whether Wednesday of Thanksgiving week should be part of the Thanksgiving break is a problem because of the need to make up the day elsewhere in the term. Hooper added that responses indicate little willingness to hold classes on Labor Day.

ACTION: Hooper M/S/P to ask Mehlhaff to request that the Faculty Senate ask the committee next year to consider the calendar on the basis of data gathered in this poll.

CHAIR'S REPORT. Mehlhaff called attention to his draft report to the Faculty Senate, which already includes the request included in Hooper's motion. Accompanying the report will be a list of actions taken by the committee at meetings this year. Members of the committee offered suggestions for refining the report.

At 5:59 p.m. Stevens M/S/P that we "quit for the year."

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne W. Barnett
29 April 1999
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