

**Curriculum Committee Minutes
October 14, 1998**

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

At 5:07 p.m. Mehlhaff began the meeting.

Minutes. **Goleeke M/S/P to approve the minutes for the meeting of 7 October 1998.**

Subcommittees

SCIENCE IN CONTEXT. Stevens reported that the subcommittee had considered a course and voted to approve it with the proviso that the proposer edit and rewrite the catalogue description; Washburn will request the revision.

ACTION: Stevens M/S/P acceptance of SCXT 325D - Salmon Recovery in the Pacific Northwest: Science in Conflict, to be offered Spring 1999, for the SCXT core.

In discussion Bruce asked about the relation of this course to the Environmental Studies Program; Washburn replied that the Director of the program, Karin Sable, is one of the instructors in the course.

Academic calendar. Mehlhaff stated that the committee's task is to approve the detailed calendar for 1999-2000 and the roughed-out calendar for 2002-2003 and added that consideration of the guidelines for setting the academic calendar will come back to the committee later; if we change the guidelines and the change affects the calendar for 2002-2003 we will revisit the calendar for 2002-2003.

ACTION Kline M/S/P to approve the detailed calendar for 1999-2000 and the roughed-out calendar for 2002-2003.

In discussion the committee considered Bartanen's friendly amendment, later withdrawn, of the possibility of extending the "Last Day to Add or Audit Classes" and the "Last Day to Exercise P/F Option" from Tuesday, 7 September 1999, to Wednesday, 8 September, thus to allow more time because of the Labor Day holiday on 6 September. Tomhave pointed out that the 7th maintains the usual six class days prior to the deadline, and Barnett and others spoke against extending the deadline for adding a class on grounds that a class would be well along already by the 7th.

Core curriculum assessment. Kline reported that the subcommittee had had a good meeting toward assessment of the "experienced curriculum"; the effort was to create a system that is "viable" but yet not too onerous a burden for the faculty and the Curriculum Committee. Kline distributed a document entitled "DRAFT Core Assessment Plan" dated 10/14/98. The plan, in two options at this point, involves assessment of each core rubric by "a selection of faculty teaching in that core area," with the Curriculum Committee as the recipient of reports submitted by the faculty groups. The plan proposes review of all core areas over a four-year period. In discussion Goleeke and others raised questions about the committee's workload and the relationship of reviews of the core for purposes of assessment and five-year reviews of the core (Tomhave). Proehl and others expressed the view that the assessment process and the five-year reviews of the core with reference to the guidelines are compatible and can merge to some extent. Cannon pointed out that, unlike a five-year review of the core, core assessment is not course-specific. Bartanen added that five-year reviews of the core rubrics, presumed to occur in a "fallow year" that has happened only once since its designation, involve both course-by-course reviews and reviews of the guidelines for each rubric in the context of the review of all rubrics. Assessment

data can help the process of consideration of the core rubric. Mehlhaff reminded the committee of John Finney's advice last year: If an assessment activity does not provide valuable information, then don't do it. Grunberg added that if we do undertake assessment we should "do it right."

At 6:02 p.m. Stevens "M/S/P" that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne W. Barnett
14 October 1998