

**Curriculum Committee Minutes
October 28, 1998**

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

At 5:06 p.m. Mehlhaff called the meeting to order.

Minutes. **Cannon M/S/P to approve the minutes for the meeting of 21 October 1998 as posted.**

Announcements. Committee members called attention to upcoming events in the arts and also to the faculty workshop on Friday, 30 October, with Clara Yu of Middlebury College, on technology and teaching.

Biology departmental review. Mehlhaff read a memorandum to the committee from the chair of the Department of Biology, Wayne Rickoll, requesting extension of the deadline for the Biology five-year review: Major changes in the departmental program could be in view, and departmental faculty could use more time; the department could have the review package ready by June 1999.

ACTION: Goleeke M/S/P to postpone the deadline for the Biology departmental review package until June 1999.

In discussion committee members raised questions about the impact of this postponement on the "fallow year" supposed to occur in 1999-2000 as an opportunity to review the core curriculum (Washburn), the incidence of postponements of departmental reviews (Barnett), and whether the Biology package should come in earlier, perhaps 1 April or even 1 March (Livingston).

Subcommittees. Mehlhaff stated that the postponement of the Biology review changes the list of subcommittees: The Biology subcommittee will become the Politics and Government subcommittee. Washburn distributed a new subcommittee list and explained an additional need for a change in the Comparative Values (CV) subcommittee into CV-I and CV-II because some members of the previous CV subcommittee (now CV-I) have submitted proposals in this core area as part of the Foreign Languages and Literature departmental review. The changes in the subcommittee assignments since the last listing are as follows:

Politics and Government: Bruce, Cannon (Chair), Sugimoto, Bartanen

Communication II: Bruce (Chair), Kline, Pinzino, Bartanen

Comparative Values-I: Hooper (Chair), Kline, Sugimoto, Bartanen

Comparative Values-II: Grunberg (Chair), Livingston, Proehl, Bartanen

CORE CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT. Kline reported that the subcommittee met and that she will provide a formal proposal for the committee's consideration at the next meeting, which allows timely submission of the document to RASCAL.

ECONOMICS. Grunberg reported that the subcommittee unanimously recommends approval of the Economics departmental review package, and he distributed a memorandum for the committee's consideration.

ACTION: Grunberg M/S/P approval of the Economics five-year review package.

Notes: (a) This motion passed with one ABSTENTION (Warning). (b) **The core status of Economics 170 - The Principles of Economics (SO) is pending.**

In discussion Grunberg outlined the four changes in the department's program: (1) Elimination of the current two-course sequence 175 - Principles of Economics: Macro and 176 - Principles of Economics: Micro after the 1999-2000 academic year and replacement of the sequence by *one* introductory course, 170, which will be a combination of 175 and 176 and similarly would be in the Society core; (2) increase in the number of electives in the major from three to four, a step enabled by establishing the single required introductory course; (3) creation of a new elective course, 222 - Economics and Philosophy (non-core); and (4) renumbering of 199 - Principles of Microeconomics: Business Leadership as Economics 200.

The subcommittee sees the main change, item (1) above, as helpful to nonmajors, including minors, who thus will have both macroeconomics and microeconomics. Majors nonetheless have a very solid program, "rigorous" and "well thought out." The department has satisfied the review questions, including the question about Writing in the Major, which occurs in small 300-level econometrics courses and in the senior seminar required for the major, along with writing elsewhere in the program. The subcommittee commends the department for a thorough review and for making the subcommittee's task "relatively simple."

Committee members discussed the changes and the department's revised program, which will allow for a time of transition. Washburn pointed out that approval of the review package would accept Economic 170 as a course but that approval for the Society core would be pending the recommendation from the Society subcommittee and further committee action. Some discussion addressed the lack of a 300-/400-level requirement in the minor, which the University's provisions for the minor does not include; Stevens pointed out the value of the lack of such a requirement in enabling students in the minor to acquire breadth in the discipline. Heavner expressed appreciation for the flexibility permitting a student to pursue either breadth or depth in the minor.

At 5:50 p.m. Stevens M/S/P that we adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne W. Barnett
29 October 1998

green2:CC28OCT8