

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

19 September 1995 (Tuesday)

Misner Room

Present: Barnett, Bartanen, Clifford, Cousens, Jackson, Kerrick, Kline, Magnus, Matthews, Merz (Chair), Morgan, Neshyba, Paris, Tomlin, Valentine, Washburn

Absent: Orloff

Merz began the meeting at 8:03 a.m.

Minutes: The committee M/S/P approval of the minutes for the meeting of 12 September 1995.

Announcements. Merz welcomed Dave Paris '96.

Procedures: Merz proposed that we follow Robert's Rules of Order informally, allowing discussion to occur prior to a motion; a motion would be welcome anytime, however, and on occasion the chair might invite a motion. The committee responded with general agreement.

Freshman curriculum: Matthews reported that the Faculty Senate meeting on 18 September 1995 included extensive discussion of prospects for a freshman curriculum and that Senators welcome the committee's forthcoming one-page summary of the historical background of the issue. The Faculty Senate hopes to hold a two-hour faculty forum involving small-group discussion and a general meeting to decide whether to move forward with a freshman course.

One-page background memorandum. Kline and Clifford presented the "working draft" of a memorandum to go to all faculty as a summary of the committee's previous work on a possible freshman curriculum. In discussion committee members recalled the larger context of the issue with reference to the core curriculum and the firm intention of the committee not to *expand* the core by the introduction of a new freshman course. Referring to the cover memorandum of the committee's report to the Faculty Senate last spring, the committee acted as follows:

ACTION **Barnett, with others, M/S/P to endorse the "working draft" statement with the addition of "assumptions" and paragraph 1 of "goals" as previously presented but modified for greater clarity.**

The statement will go to all faculty as a memorandum (hard copy) and will include a reminder that the committee's full report dated 12 April 1995 is available electronically on Gopher; Merz will provide a hard copy of the full report to any faculty member who requests it.

Academic calendar. Washburn explained that each year the committee must approve the four-year "basic calendar" outlining semester starts and ends, as well as breaks (this action follows the mandate of the Faculty Senate). Additionally, the committee must set the "expanded calendar" for the coming year. In the process, the committee should reconsider the document entitled "Guidelines for Setting Academic Calendar." Committee members will review materials for discussion at the next meeting, when, as Tomlin pointed out, we may have to confront novel calendrical arrangements resulting from the millennial shift in '00.

Merz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:50.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 1995, 8:00 A.M., MISNER ROOM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne W. Barnett
19 Sep 95