

Curriculum Committee

Minutes of the September 23, 2016 Meeting

Present: Rob Beezer (Secretary), Quinelle Bethelmie, Peggy Burge, David Chiu, Sara Freeman, Kent Hooper, Martin Jackson, Chris Kendall, Alan Krause, Carson Nies, Elise Richman (Chair), Holly Roberts, Leslie Saucedo, Jason Struna, Brad Tomhave, Bryan Thines, Benjamin Tromly.

Visitor: Lisa Hutchinson.

RICHMAN called the meeting to order at 4:01. She asked if the committee wished to continue the previous process of approving motions by consensus. There were no objections made. The minutes of the September 9, 2016 meeting were approved as circulated.

Working Groups Membership of the four Working Groups (subcommittees) and their Leads (chairs) were transmitted with the meeting announcement. Along with their areas of responsibility, they are:

- WG1 — BURGE, JACKSON, STRUNA, TIEHEN (Lead) Martin Jackson Jason Struna Justin Tiehan (lead) Religion curriculum review; Artistic Approaches core area review (finish from 2015-16); Knowledge, Identity, and Power course proposals.
- WG2 — BETHELMIE, FREEMAN, ROBERTS, TROMLY (Lead); German curriculum review; Humanistic Approaches core area review; First-year seminar (SSI) proposals.
- WG3 — KENDALL, NIES, THINES, WIESE (Lead); Philosophy curriculum review; Social Scientific core area review; Approaches course proposals.
- WG4 — CHIU, HOOPER (Lead), SAUCEDO, TOMHAVE; Politics and Government curriculum review; Special Interdisciplinary Major curriculum review; Connections course proposals; Special Interdisciplinary Major proposals.

Artistic Approaches Review RICHMAN introduced the report on the Artistic Approaches core area review, held over from AY 2015-16, which will be presented by Professor Jim Evans at the next meeting. BURGE called attention to the recommendations contained in the report.

Delegation to Associate Deans RICHMAN introduced *The Functions of the Associate Deans' Office in Curricular Matters*, which is approved by the committee each year. There was discussion of how many of the working groups the Dean's representative participates in. It was left that JACKSON will serve regularly on one working group, and he issued a standing invitation to have any of the other working groups request his participation in their work.

TROMLY questioned the discretion in item (2) of Delegated Action (revisions to requirements without significant broad impact). RICHMAN and JACKSON responded that without this item the committee would have a large number of trivial changes to approve, and the committee always has a right to appeal.

The word "and" was removed from the end of item (8) in the Preliminary Review section, and under Delegated Action, item (1) was rewritten to read "approval of individual non-core, non-KNOW, new or revised courses". **Action:** Accepted, as revised.

Announcements SAUCEDO asked if there would be announcements at the top of the meeting. RICHMAN responded affirmatively, and made room for them now. SAUCEDO did have a topic to address.

SAUCEDO asked if the change to a seven-year cycle of departmental curriculum reviews might not occur sooner than in seven years for new programs? JACKSON was in favor of keeping the proposed change simple by only changing 5 to 7, and offered that the language will be "at least every seven years," thus allowing for an earlier review.

JACKSON alerted the committee that the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (FEPPS) would like to move beyond offering only Associates degrees to women in Washington State prisons, and also offer Bachelors degrees. Having Puget Sound grant such degrees will likely come before the committee this year.

Spring Deadline for Course Proposals The current deadline for proposing new courses leaves little time for working groups to review them and then have the full committee approve them. A new deadline of "February 15 (or the following Monday if the date falls on a weekend)" was proposed after some discussion. **Action:** Approved.

Politics and Government 354 and 355 These courses are part of Professor Robin Jacobson's *Comparative State Politics and Policy* initiative which features an internship at the Washington State Legislature. These were approved by the committee for a one-time offering in Spring 2016. Discussion at this meeting concerns permanent approval for these courses, and the necessity of having JACOBSON attend a committee meeting.

Discussion centered on awarding academic credit to the students for this "unusual format" course, and also how faculty credit is awarded for teaching several units that simultaneously are likely to have systematically low enrollment (2 students last spring). FREEMAN was especially interested in the basis on which we approve such courses.

After extensive discussion, HOOPER proposed it might be more efficient to have a small subcommittee pursue answers to the questions that were brought up, and to review the minutes from last year's discussions. So WG4 was tasked, FREEMAN formulated two questions, and the matter will be pursued by email in advance of the next meeting.

The motion to adjourn was made by RICHMAN, professor of Art, at 5:00 P.M. The next meeting will be October 14, 2016 at 4 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Beezer