

## **Curriculum Committee Minutes January 30, 2009**

**Present:** Brazell, DeMarais, Elliott, Hooper, Kotsis, Lamb, Livingston (Chair), Loeb, McCuiston, Richards, Richman, Sandler, Tomhave, Walls, Warren, Wix.

**Call to Order:** Chair Livingston called the meeting to order.

**Opening Remarks:** Chair Livingston noted that the Volunteers in Tax Assistance will be available to help individuals earning \$42,000 or less with tax preparation. They will be available in the SUB on Saturday, March 7, 2009.

**Announcements:** The new student member, Tessa Wix, was introduced. **DeMarais** said that she has asked ASUPS for a second student member.

**Approval of the Minutes of December 5, 2008:** It was **M/S/P** to approve the minutes of the December 5 meeting as written.

### **Reports from Working Groups:**

**Working Group 1:** Lamb reported that the group is thinking.

**Working Group 2:** Loeb reported that the group is caught up with its work.

**Working Group 3:** Walls stated that the group met with Keith Ward to confer about the School of Music review and had had a positive discussion about the number of requirements for majors in Music. The group is nearing completion of the review.

**Working Group 4:** They have begun consideration of the Upper Division requirement.

**Working Group 5:** Kotsis moved approval of a Special Interdisciplinary Major (SIM). The group asked the student to add one more class in addition to those proposed originally. The major consists of 16 units.

As the SIM was discussed, members of the Committee wondered whether departments that are heavily represented in a SIM should be involved in discussions of the program.

The SIM was **M/S/P**.

Kotsis then moved approval of the Asian Language majors.

Hooper noted that the program has been completely revamped from the older FLIA program. He was impressed by the way in which the program makes use of faculty in the Asian Studies area outside Foreign Languages and noted that the majors are no longer relying as heavily on instructors.

Livingston inquired as to whether the FLIA program had gone away in general. Hooper responded that FLIA was still available in French, German, and Spanish.

The majors in Asian Languages (Chinese, Japanese, East Asian Languages) were **M/S/P**.

**Core Review Discussion Process:** Chair Livingston reminded the members of the Committee that we are charged with the review of the core as a whole this year. She intends to bring our review to the full faculty at the general faculty meeting on April 6, 2009. The question then was how to ask departments to consider the core.

Sandler asked if we could collect data on changes in enrollment due to the introduction of the new core. For instance, enrollment in humanities classes seems to be shrinking.

Livingston asked where the students are going.

Sandler responded that faculty members in the humanities are being encouraged to teach first year seminars instead of upper level courses.

Livingston then proposed that we split the core into two segments: 1) all the “Approaches” courses and 2) the first year seminars and Connections.

Members of the committee agreed that we should begin with the more contentious issues, the seminars and Connections.

To develop a document to be sent to the chairs of departments, each Working Group will develop questions in a particular area of the core. Those questions will be sent to DeMarais and Livingston who will collate them and bring them back to the Committee.

DeMarais also asked for general questions about the core as a whole.

Richman **M/S/P** adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Rose Lamb