

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

15 February 2008 (Friday)

Misner Room

Present: Carlo Bonura, Jane Brazell, Jordan Conley, Alyce DeMarais , Greg Elliott, Leon Grunberg, Fred Hamel, Kriszta Kotsis, Mary Rose Lamb (Chair), Lynda Livingston, Paul Loeb, Bob Matthews, Brad Richards, Elise Richman, Stuart Smithers, Brad Tomhave , Barbara Warren

Call to order. Chair Lamb called the meeting to order at 9:04.

Remarks by the Chair: There was no report by the Chair

Approval of Minutes of November 30, 2007: The minutes of November 30, 2007 were approved as written.

Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2008. The minutes of February 1, 2008 were approved as written.

Announcements: There were no announcements

Working Group Reports:

WG 1: **Richards** reported that WG 1 had set a date (March 3) for a meeting with SSA faculty, and that WG 1 had received material for Communication Studies.

WG 2: **Loeb** reported on behalf of WG 2 and **M/S/P** approval of History 129, Mao's China: A Country in Revolution for the SCIS core.

WG 3: **Livingston** reported for WG 3 that work is in progress.

WG 4: **Elliott** reported for WG 4 that work is in progress.

WG 5: **Smithers**, reported for WG 5 and **M/S/P** acceptance of the Art Department Review. Discussion centered around the 11 unit studio major

Smithers then **M/S/P** of an Interdisciplinary Emphasis in Global Development.

The discussion centered about several topics

- The issue of adding Interdisciplinary Emphasis programs and minors.
- The view that several Interdisciplinary Emphasis programs were closely related to existing programs. IPE and FLIAA were given as examples.
- The issue of overlap with other programs.

The proposed program would require six units and programs would be evaluated by a committee of faculty in the emphasis program.

In response to a question, **Bonura** reported that departments whose courses would be included in this new program had considered the possible impacts on their programs.

In speaking to the overlap issue, **DeMaris** noted that IE programs could exclude major and minor courses from an IE program. **Richards** noted that while Asian Studies permitted double counting of courses, Neurology did not permit such double counting.

Discussion of Special Interdisciplinary Major

Chair Lamb distributed material related to an example of a Special Interdisciplinary Major (SIM). The primary issues:

- Who has responsibility for SIM programs?
- How many students undertake a SIM?
- How does the Committee proceed with evaluation of a SIM program?
- Should we continue to support the SIM?

Chair Lamb pointed out that the Curriculum Committee has the administrative responsibility for the SIM program and that such programs are approved by the Committee.

DeMarais asked if we should continue this program in light of the increased flexibility given by Interdisciplinary Emphasis Programs and minors. **Bonura** and others expressed some concern about the aims of the courses listed in the example program before us. In response to a question regarding how this is listed in the student's records, **Tomhave** pointed out that the student is given a designation of Special Interdisciplinary Major with a note about the special emphasis that appears in the student's degree records.

Loeb asked how many students used this designation on average. **DeMarais** responded that we had one this year and on average one per year.

Loeb then responded that he felt that the checks and balances currently in place were sufficient, and **M/S/P** that we leave the SIM program as it is.

There being no further business, **Richman M/S/P** that we adjourn, and we did adjourn at 9:46.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Matthews