

To: Faculty Senate and Professor Barry Anton (chair)

From: Professor Lisa Fortlouis Wood

Re: Final Report of the Curriculum Committee 2006-7

Attached please find a complete list of the actions taken by the Curriculum Committee during the 2006-2007 academic year.

Highlights: We completed seven department reviews, with one more ongoing. Additionally, the committee approved the proposed academic calendar for 2007-8 and basic dates for 2010-11 along with revisions to the calendar setting guidelines for summer terms. The committee approved 19 new courses across the university curriculum and approved the core reviews for humanistic and fine arts approaches. We ratified current practices of the Registrar's office with regard to the upper division core requirement outside the major and voted to "do nothing" about double counting of academic units. We passed three motions regarding the internship courses as part of our ongoing review of the internship program.

We deferred the review of International Programs to 2007-2008 and accepted the Interim Study Abroad Committee Program approvals for 21 programs world wide.

Comments from the Chair: It is most important to note that we had a very cohesive and hardworking committee this year, with consistent and high-quality notes provided by Professor Suzanne Barnett. Several staff members facilitated our work, with Associate Dean, Alyce DeMarais serving with wisdom on all working groups, and Assistant Dean Carrie Washburn providing much needed expertise and guidance on process, committee history, and documentation requirements. In addition, Registrar, Brad Tomhave provided data on registration patterns and enrollments as we considered various questions regarding how students fulfill requirements. Assistant Registrar, Lori Blake served in Brad Tomhave's stead when he was unable to attend meetings; several members of the registrar's office also joined us when we had questions relevant to their work. We also found support in the Academic Advising Office from Director, Jack Roundy and his staff. Librarian, Lori Ricigliano, served as staff representative on the committee and is appreciated for her ongoing participation in our work. Thank you to all members of the committee.

Committee Structure and Process: The committee completed its work for the year on April 20, 2007. The committee was divided into 5 working groups made up of newer and more experienced faculty across varied disciplines. Committee members stayed with the same working group all year and each group was led by an experienced member of the curriculum committee. The purpose of this approach was to simplify the assignment process, to foster closer working relationships among faculty, to simplify scheduling for faculty and the associate dean (who sits on every working group or subcommittee) and to provide a clear and consistent framework for meetings. This "working group" structure

also provided a consistent framework for meeting notes and the tracking of completed work.

One concern emerged this year regarding equity in the distribution of workload. Some members of the committee and some working groups reported a significantly heavier workload than others. As noted in the self-evaluation document (see attachment to 4.20.07 minutes), attention to the matter of assignments at the outset and mid-year would likely remedy this imbalance. A second issue with this model rests in the possibility that members of working groups who are more experienced or more vocal may possibly have a greater influence on decision processes and may inadvertently shape the values of newer members. Further, because the groups stay together throughout the year, newer members may have significantly less exposure to a wide-range of faculty views as compared to the more varied sub-committee model. This is a clear trade-off and may be a bigger problem in some groups as compared with others depending on individual faculty involved. One remedy for this possible of imbalance is to foster whole committee conversations on topics of critical import or interest, so that a variety of views and values can be shared more widely.

In sum, the working group approach holds promise, especially if the above caveats are addressed proactively. It may be prudent for the new chair of the Curriculum Committee to review the self-assessment document in order to consider whether or not this approach will be appropriate for the committee in the coming year. Overall, members of the committee were positive about committee process this year.

The following items are suggested for next year's Senate charges:

1. Complete remaining business related to the review of the academic internship courses.
2. Continue the on-going business of the Committee including: 5 year reviews of departments and programs, ongoing assessment of core rubrics, review of international study programs.
3. Continue ongoing discussion of the Connections rubric with regard to issue of consistency of approval practices across committees and subcommittees.
4. Consider whether or not it is appropriate for the Curriculum Committee to address the scheduling of class times as part of its ongoing charges.

Submitted: April 24, 2007 by: Lisa Fortlouis Wood, Committee Chair

**Curriculum Committee
Disposition of 2006-2007 Agenda**

I. Departmental Reviews

- 11/15/2006 English Department curriculum review accepted.
- 3/2/2007 Latin American Studies Program curriculum review accepted.
- 3/2/2007 Exercise Science Department curriculum review accepted.
- 3/2/2007 Geology Department curriculum review accepted.
- 3/2/2007 History Department curriculum review accepted.
- 3/2/2007 Physics Department curriculum review accepted.
- 3/30/2007 Chemistry Department curriculum review accepted.
- 4/20/2007 Internship and Cooperative Education program review continued.
(Three internship-related motions passed; see below)

II. On-going business

Academic Calendar

- 10/11/2006 Full Academic Calendar for 2007-2008 and basic dates for 2010-2011 approved and sent to Faculty Senate.
- 10/11/2006 Approval of revisions to calendar setting guidelines to discontinue Summer terms B and C.

Action on core courses

- 10/4/2006 GEOL 115, Geomythology of Ancient Catastrophes, approved for the Scholarly and Creative Inquiry seminar core.
- 10/4/2006 HIST 115, The Crusades, approved for the Writing and Rhetoric seminar core.
- 10/4/2006 CONN 325, The Experience of Prejudice, approved for the Connections core.
- 10/18/2006 CONN 329, Communication Between Science and the Public, approved for the Connections core.
- 10/18/2006 CONN 303, The Monstrous Middle Ages, approved for the Connections core.
- 10/18/2006 HUM 305, Modernization and Modernism, approved for the Connections core.
- 11/15/2006 ART 120, Hagia Sophia: A Cross-Cultural Examination (6th to 21st C.), approved for the Scholarly and Creative Inquiry seminar core.
- 11/15/2006 REL 130, Lies, Secrets, and Power, approved for the Scholarly and Creative Inquiry seminar core.
- 11/15/2006 ENGL 201, Intermediate Writing and Rhetoric, approved for the Writing and Rhetoric seminar core.
- 11/15/2006 HUM 301, The Idea of the Self, approved for the Connections core.
- 1/26/2007 CONN 410, Making a Difference: Exploring the Ethics of Hope, approved for the Connections core.
- 2/9/2007 BIOL 240, Mysteries of Biology: Solved and Unsolved, approved for the Scholarly and Creative Inquiry seminar core.
- 2/9/2007 CONN 372, The Gilded Age: Literary Realisms and Historical Realities, approved for the Connections core for Summer 2007 only.
- 3/2/2007 ENGL 138, Sub/Urban America, approved for the Writing and Rhetoric seminar core.
- 3/2/2007 PHIL 109, Life, Death, and Meaning, approved for the Scholarly and Creative Inquiry seminar core.
- 3/2/2007 EDUC 110, Under Construction: Race, Sexuality, and Society, approved for the Writing and Rhetoric seminar core.
- 3/2/2007 IPE 389, Global Struggles over Intellectual Property, approved for the Connections core.
- 3/2/2007 STS 370, Science and Religion: Historical Perspectives, approved for the Connections core.
- 4/20/2007 COMM 258, Intercultural Communication, approved for Social Scientific Approaches core.

III. Other Curricular Business

- 9/6/2006 Approved deferral of International Programs curriculum review to 2007-2008.
- 9/6/2006 Approved minor revision to Self Study Guide, calling for double sided copies of syllabi.
- 9/20/2006 Approved the list of curricular actions delegated to the Associate Dean, deleting provisional approval of Approaches core courses.

- 10/18/2006 Ratified current practices of the Registrar's Office with regard to the implementation of the upper division requirement.
- 12/6/2006 Approved the addition of two regular [non-contract] majors and modification of the contract majors in Mathematics and Computer Science.
- 12/6/2006 Voted to "do nothing" about double counting of academic units.
- 4/20/2007 Three motions were passed regarding internship courses.
- a. The interdisciplinary internship seminar will carry a single prefix (to be determined later, e.g. INTN). The course number will remain 497.
 - b. Any internship seminar given by an academic department will carry the department prefix. These are courses developed and reviewed by departments (e.g. ENGL 497).
 - c. The interdisciplinary internship seminar may not be used to fulfill the upper division (three units outside the first major) breadth requirement in the core.

Core Reviews

- 3/30/2007 Approved Humanistic Approaches core review.
- 4/20/2007 Approved Fine Arts Approaches core review.

Interim Study Abroad Committee program approvals. Accepted the following programs:

- 10/4/2006 IES Tokyo summer (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Barcelona summer (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Amsterdam (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES India (Delhi). (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Milan summer (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Melbourne summer (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Rome summer (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 SIT Oman (Approved)
- 10/4/2006 Denmark International Studies Program (DIS). (Approved)
- 10/4/2006 IES Tokyo summer, effective summer 2007 (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Barcelona summer, effective summer 2007 (Partner)
- 10/4/2006 IES Amsterdam, effective fall 2007 (Partner)
- 10/18/2006 Universidad de Santiago de Compostela (Spain), Spring semester program (Approved).
- 1/26/2007 Institute for the International Education of Students, European Union Summer Program (Partner)
- 1/26/2007 Institute for the International Education of Students, Quito Summer Program (Partner Program)
- 1/26/2007 Institute for the International Education of Students, Quito Semester Program (Partner)
- 1/26/2007 Institute for the International Education of Students, Santiago Summer Program (Partner)
- 1/26/2007 School for International Training, Rwanda/Uganda Summer Program (Partner)
- 1/26/2007 School for International Training, Peru Semester Program (Partner)
- Provisional approval granted
- 1/26/2007 Currently approved School for International Training (SIT) programs approved for Partner program status.
- 4/20/2007 Temple Rome (Partner)

IV. Business to be carried over to 2007-2008

Connections: Continue discussion of issues raised at 4.13-4.20 meetings regarding course approval practices and issues of consistency across years/committees (see minutes and related attachment from Minutes of 4.13 and 4.20)

Internship and Cooperative Education Review: Address remaining elements of the review.

V. Departmental reviews scheduled for 2007-2008

Art
Classics
Communication Studies
Education
Honors
Humanities
International Programs
Theatre Arts

VI. Core Reviews scheduled for 2007-2008

Social Scientific Approaches
Connections