Curriculum Committee minutes 11/9/05

Present: Suzanne Barnett, Carlo Bonura, DeWayne Derryberry, Brad Dillman, Ashley Gray, Zaixin Hong, Jim Jasinski, Grace Livingston, David Lupher, Karim Ochosi, Christine Smith, Carrie Washburn, Linda Williams

1. Chair Derryberry called the meeting to order at 8:30am

2. The committee reviewed the minutes of its 11/2 meeting. After making a small correction to David Lupher's 11/2 sub-committee report (replacing the word "humanistic" with "connections" in the heading and first line), they approved the minutes.

3. The chair noted that the committee was meeting in order to approve a course that will become part of the core course offerings for spring 2006. The chair also announced the creation of a new sub-committee to review interdisciplinary program proposals in biochemistry and molecular and cellular biology. Committee members will be DeWayne Derryberry, Brad Dillman, and Brad Tomhave.

4. The only sub-committee report came from David Lupher's Connections sub-comm. Lupher reported that the sub-comm recommended approval of Jeff Matthews' proposal for an interdisciplinary course on "Black Business Leadership: Past and Present" (Matthews' course will receive an appropriate CONN number from associate dean's office). Lupher continued that the sub-comm was satisfied that the course was appropriately interdisciplinary. Jasinski commented that he had some concerns about the degree to which the course addressed "the influence of racism and prejudice on the evolution of American black capitalism" (as indicated in course description). He continued that he raised these concerns with Prof. Matthews who took the time to respond in a long e-mail and photocopy some course materials. Jasinski wanted to express his thanks to Prof. Matthews for doing so, and he commented that he was convinced this course would be a valuable addition to the Connections rubric.

For the full committee's benefit, Washburn noted the course's history (originally offered as a well-received special topics course before being proposed for Connections rubric).

The committee unanimously approved the addition of Black Business Leadership: Past and Present to the Connections rubric.

5. New Business. Washburn requested an update from program review sub-committee chairs on their work. The chairs indicated that preliminary sub-committee meetings either have been or will shortly be scheduled.

6. The committee adjourned at 8:50am.

Respectfully submitted: Jim Jasinski