

Minutes for the Curriculum Committee meeting of April 18, 2005

Members present:

Ken Rousslang, Christine Smith, Lisa Wood, Grace Livingston, Joyce Tamashiro, Suzanne Barnett, Jim Jasinski, Brad Tomhave, Bill Barry, Carrie Washburn, Rich Anderson-Connolly (Chair), Carlo Bonura (Secretary).

The Committee approved minutes for the April 4 2005 meeting with minor revisions.

Connections sub-committee report:

Barnett **moved** approval by the Curriculum Committee of the following course for the Connections core rubric:

Connections 308 - Free Expression in the United States, proposed by Terry Cooney (History).

This new course created expressly for the Connections core found easy approval by the Connections Subcommittee because of the intrinsic nature of the subject as *belonging* "to no academic field" (proposal cover memo) but appropriate to many, including history. The thorough, thoughtful proposal of this course shows the use of works by scholars associated with the discipline of history but also in sociology, philosophy, literature, political science, law, and the fine arts. The syllabus well explains the course in terms of the core area and lays out reading and writing assignments that will make students aware of multiple disciplinary perspectives and will lead them to "engage the interdisciplinary process" that is at the heart of the Connections rubric.

This course was unanimously approved by the Committee.

Environmental studies departmental curriculum review

The Committee officially received the report from the subcommittee and recognized that it would not be able to take action at this time due to the short amount of time left before the end of the semester. The general sentiment of the Committee was that the next sub-committee should take seriously the current questions of the Committee in their deliberations next semester.

Draft of Curriculum Committee final report to the senate:

The Committee discussed various preliminary changes to the report. General questions related to minor corrections were raised.

The issue of whether the Connections sub-committee would have a full six members was also raised. Members of the sub-committee also discussed the benefits of having developed a process for reviewing courses rather than working merely from a list of guidelines.