Curriculum Committee Minutes February 26, 2002

Present: Abbott, Barry, Beck, Clark, Derryberry, Greene, Hannaford, Kline, Kontogeorgopoulos, Mehlhaff (chair), Neff-Lippman, Pasco-Pranger, Sackman, Tomhave, Washburn, Weinman-Jagosh.

Visitor: Ricigliano

Mehlhaff called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Corrections to minutes for 2/19/02:

Julie Neff-Lippman's name was misspelled in the minutes for 2/19/02. With this error corrected, minutes were approved for the 2/19/02 meeting of the Committee.

Report on the Physics Department Curriculum Review:

Barry reported for the subcommittee that the self-study document for the Physics was very brief and straightforward; the Department proposes no changes to what is at present a strong and successful major. The subcommittee corresponded with the Department concerning question #10 of the self-study, which addresses assessment, and asked the Department to pursue assessment of their curriculum with more vigor. The subcommittee particularly commended the Department for its attention to Writing in the Major. Mehlhaff asked whether the self-study addressed the effects of Fred Slee's imminent retirement. Barry said it did not. Barry M/S/P approval of the Physics Department's curriculum review.

Writing and Rhetoric Subcommittee report:

Kline reported for the subcommittee on two courses proposed for inclusion in the new Core as Seminars in Writing and Rhetoric. The first is a new course, COMM 108 Workplace Discourse: Paradoxes of Life at Work, proposed by Renée Houston. The subcommittee had some concerns about the course's attention to "composition as a process (including purposeful drafting, revising, and editing)" (Guideline II.C). Houston has agreed to include a written assignment or assignments that address the subcommittees concerns. The second course is COMM 105 The Rhetoric of Race Relations: From Abolition to Civil Rights and Beyond, proposed by Jim Jasinski. The subcommittee had no substantial concerns with this course. Kline M/S/P approval of both COMM 105 The Rhetoric of Race Relations: From Abolition to Civil Rights and Beyond and COMM 108 Workplace Discourse: Paradoxes of Life at Work, as Seminars in Writing and Rhetoric, with the uinderstanding that both courses would also count for the Communications II.A category of the old Core.

The Committee informally discussed the relative merits of listing First-Year Seminars as SCIS 10x or W&R 10x as opposed to listing them in the instructors' departments. The same question arises with respect to Connections courses. The Committee reached no consensus, but agreed to put the question on the agenda at some later date.

At 8:25 Weinman-Jagosh M/S/P adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Pasco-Pranger