

Curriculum Committee Minutes

September 10, 2014

Committee members attending: Rich Anderson- Connolly, Bill Beardsley, Rob Beezer, Luc Boisvert, Nancy Bristow, Gwynne Brown, Sara Freeman, Martin Jackson (standing in for Lisa Ferrari), Lisa Johnson, Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Julia Looper, Janet Marcavage, Tim Pogar, Elise Richman, Brett Rogers, Allison Simmons, Brad Tomhave

Also attending: Lisa Hutchinson, Jonathan Stockdale.

Meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by Jonathan Stockdale, Faculty Senate liaison to the Curriculum Committee (CC), who left after the committee chair's election.

Sara Freeman was elected committee chair.

Gwynne Brown volunteered to serve as minutes-taker for the year. The committee voted to release the secretary from working group (WG) duty.

Members agreed to keep Wednesday 8 a.m. as the regular meeting time, but not necessarily every week. The CC will meet next week, 9/17 [later amended via e-mail: **the next meeting will be on 9/24**], to determine WGs and assignments.

Freeman read the senate charges (available in "Shared Documents" on SoundNet for CC 2014-2015).

Discussion: With some of the charges (i.e., #4, about transfer credits, and #5, about foreign language courses), there is some data gathering needed that a WG could do and present to the full CC for discussion. With charge #3, on emphases vs. minors, the info-gathering was done last year (see Appendix¹; also available on the CC SoundNet), so the whole CC can deliberate relatively soon. With #6, about the size and work of the CC, there are philosophical issues that should be discussed by the CC as a whole toward the end of the academic year. Charge #1, deferred from last year, which asks for a review of "the Core in general," and #2 (about developing a curricular impact statement and formal process for new program proposals) should perhaps start in WGs before coming to the full CC.

Regarding the need to establish WG assignments relatively soon, Bristow noted that some KNOW proposals need to be vetted this month. In response to the request of faculty who did the

¹ From CC meeting minutes, 3/10/14: "Ferrari introduced a discussion concerning how to distinguish formally between a minor in a discipline and an emphasis designation. After some relevant history was presented and discussed, attention was turned to various strategies for making this distinction the basis of such features as number of required courses (5-6 for a minor, 7-8 for an emphasis) and the degree to which an emphasis can rightly be considered a 'pathway through the curriculum.'"

KNOW workshop in July, the deadline for syllabi/proposals for new KNOW courses to be submitted for a stipend has been moved back to October. This way, faculty have more time to look at some model syllabi and craft their own.

Freeman asked whether those new to the CC would like a brief orientation to the committee, and there was some positive reaction to that. Hutchinson noted that there is a document in the Virtual Binder on SoundNet (under “Work Teams” and “Curriculum Committee 2014-2015”) that lays out the CC’s tasks and relationship with the Associate Deans Office. Freeman suggested that conversations would be a helpful supplement to this information, and urged new members to ask questions as they arise.

Discussion: in years past, the CC has spent a fair amount of time trying to figure out what we should do (our responsibilities) and what we can do (our authority). In particular there is some gray area regarding what the CC can do without approval from the Associate Deans Office. Members expressed the hope that these questions might be clarified over the course of this year for the benefit of future generations.

Hutchinson noted that also available on SoundNet are the CC’s rules and regulations, policies, the most recent year-end report to the Faculty Senate, and (coming soon) the minutes from the CC’s May meeting.

M/S/P to adjourn at 8:30.

Submitted by Gwynne Brown

Characteristics of emphases and interdisciplinary minors												
	Total req courses	Intro course	Specific capstone req	Narrow course choices	Thesis req	Double-counting Limit (major)	Double-counting Limit (core)	GPA req†	Residency req†	Pgm is part of faculty appts	Own course prefix	Other req
Emphases												
ASIA	7			X	X			X		X	X	X
Bioethics	5	X	X									
GDS	6			X			N	X				
NRSC	5	X	X			Y	Y			X	X	X
Interdisc Minors												
AFAM	5	X				Y				X	X	
EPDM	5	X	X			Y				X	X	
GNDR	5	X	X			Y					X	
HUM	6	X	X							X	X	
LAS	5	X				Y					X	X
LTS	5	X	X								X	X
STS	6	X	X							X	X	
*plus study abroad requirement												
†beyond general university requirements for a minor												

Notes							
Requires study abroad or internship in Asia; thesis req for Trimble designation only							
Program begins in 2014-2015, so there are many unknowns							
Requires internship, can't double-count with 1st major							
Some restrictions on double-counting							
Two courses at 300- or 400-level							
Language proficiency							