Curriculum Committee Minutes January 22, 1998

Present: Barnett, Bruce, Cannon, Fikes, R. Fields, Hooper, Kline (Chair), Mehlhaff, Ralls, Bartanen, Washburn, Morgan
Absent: Goleeke, Lupher, Neshyba, Proehl

At 1:03 p.m. Kline called the meeting to order.

Minutes. Fields M/S/P approval of the minutes for the meeting of 2 December 1997. (Note: Barnett pointed out her error in the date of the minutes for the meeting previous to the December meeting, which should be 25 November 1997.)

Subcommittees:

COMPARATIVE SOCIOLOGY. Hooper reported that the subcommittee had addressed some questions to the department, which provided extensive response. Hooper complimented the department for a "very carefully written, thoughtfully conceived quinquennial review project."

ACTION: Hooper M/S/P approval of the Comparative Sociology review package.

In discussion, Bartanen summarized significant changes in the department's program: (1) CSOC 190 - Foundations of Socio-Cultural Studies is a new course with which all majors should start; (2) the three-track options will remain, but each major must complete a year-long senior project (CSOC 490-491) or a year-long senior thesis (CSOC 492-493), depending on the major track; (3) the 11 units required in the major all will be departmental courses; (4) another new course will be CSOC 290 - Africa and the Diaspora (proposed for the International Studies core); (5) the department will drop four courses. In response to Mehlhaff's inquiry about the "writing in the major" component, Hooper and Fikes explained that the department's program structures writing into the entire set of courses for the major.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES. Fikes reported that the subcommittee considered a proposal submitted by Martin Kingston and recommends approval.

ACTION: Fikes M/S/P approval of Comparative Sociology 290 - Africa and the Diaspora as meeting the International Studies core.

In discussion Fikes conveyed the content of the course and specified the ways it meets the core guidelines. Bartanen added that the course also will be in the curriculum of the African-American Studies minor.

COMMUNICATION I. Bruce reported that the subcommittee has under consideration a proposal submitted by seven faculty members for Humanities 120 - Freshman Seminar: Crisis and Culture. The proposal involves different sections concurrently taught in a modular format: seven five-week modules provide options from which the instructor of each section can choose three. Bartanen pointed out that three faculty members hope to offer sections taught at the same hour and days in the fall 1998 semester. Cannon commended this arrangement as an expansion of the possibilities for "team teaching"; the three instructors can monitor the course collectively.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION. Kline distributed copies of a memorandum from Carol Merz, Dean of the School of Education, in response to the committee's inquiry about the impact of the proposal of the Department of Physical Education to drop the BA major, which also would mean the elimination of its "attachments"--the BA minor, the Coaching Option, the Teaching Endorsement K-12 Option, and the Health Education Option (see minutes for the meeting of 25 November 1997, p. 2). Merz affirmed prior awareness and understanding of the proposed changes, which will eliminate the possibility of a teaching endorsement in Physical Education, but pointed out that

this omission "will have a very minor impact on our [Education] program" because on the average only "one or two P.E. majors [have been] in the MAT program over the last few years" (Merz to Kline, 20 January 1998). By agreement the committee removed from the table and acted on Bartanen's motion of 25 November.

ACTION. Bartanen M/S/P to drop the minor in PE and the accompanying "special programs" (Coaching Option, K-12 Option, and Health Education Option).

The committee dissolved into adjournment at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne W. Barnett 22 January 1998