

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

6 March 1996 (Wednesday)

Misner Room

Present: Barnett, Bartanen, Clifford, Cousens, Jackson, Kerrick, Kline, Magnus, Matthews, Merz (Chair), Morgan, Neshyba, Paris, Tomlin, Valentine, Washburn

Absent: Adams, R. Fields, Orloff

Merz began the meeting at 8:07 a.m.

Minutes. The committee M/S/P approval of the minutes for the meeting of 28 February 1996 as corrected to show Adams, Neshyba, and Bartanen as members of the new subcommittee:

**Science in Context prerequisite subcommittee:** Adams, Magnus, Matthews, Neshyba, Paris, Tomlin (chair), Bartanen

### Announcements

*Draft revised course-proposal forms.* Merz called attention to revised forms devised by Washburn, who stated that the intent of revision was to address the problem of a course coming from, or applicable to, more than one department or program. For such a course Washburn created a new form, and in the process she refined the "usual" departmental-course proposal form. One change is the addition of space for the course proposer to indicate the 15-character course title for the Class Schedule.

*Subcommittee to consider petitions regarding core credit.* Morgan reported that the Academic Standards Committee has received a petition to grant core status to a transfer course. Recalling that in a similar circumstance last year the Curriculum Committee established a subcommittee to consider the proposal, she suggested reinstatement of the subcommittee again this year; the Academic Standards Committee does not feel comfortable deciding what is deserving of core credit. Clifford commented that a subcommittee seems worth doing; sensing the committee's informal agreement with that position, Merz constituted a subcommittee as follows:

**Core credit subcommittee:** Jackson, Valentine

### Subcommittee reports

**EDUCATION.** On behalf of the subcommittee Washburn distributed a document showing changes in the Pastoral Counseling Track of the graduate program in Counseling. In the last curricular review, the Education subcommittee asked the School of Education to give further consideration to this track so that it would "mirror the requirements for the other Counseling tracks more closely"; in particular the subcommittee asked for reconsideration of what appeared to be six "practicum" units out of eight units in the track. The result of further deliberation is a clarification: The Pastoral Counseling Track involves eight units, six of which are two units of practicum and four units of course work newly proposed as follows:

- EDUC 643A - Pastoral Psychotherapy, Its Ancient and Intra-Psychic Roots
- EDUC 643B - Pastoral Counseling for Couples and Families from a Systems Perspective
- EDUC 643C - The Body in Pastoral Counseling
- EDUC 643D - Integrating Psychotherapy and Spirituality: A Theological Framework for Pastoral Counseling
- EDUC 644 - Practicum in Pastoral Counseling (.5 unit with repeatable credit to be taken concurrently with EDUC 643 in each of the four semesters of the program for a total of 2 units)

**ACTION**        **Valentine M/S/P to approve changes in the curriculum of the Pastoral Counseling track [Education 643A, 643B, 643C, 643D, and 644].** NOTE: The vote on this motion included one abstention.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR. Jackson distributed relevant materials and reported that Bill Haltom and Hans Ostrom have proposed a program in African-American Studies (AAS) that would involve a minor of five units: Two units from a list of courses in the humanities (Group I), two units from a list of courses in the social sciences (Group II), and one unit from a list of courses labeled "Race in Context" (Group III); the Group III course would enable a required "capstone project," typically a paper worked out with the instructor of the course. The proposed minor involves existing courses and has taken shape in consultation with an advisory committee. The subcommittee has consulted chairs of departments whose courses appear in the curriculum of the proposed AAS minor.

**Jackson M/S approval of the proposed minor in African-American Studies.**

Clifford asked about the membership of the advisory committee and raised the question of whether the program will have adequate expertise. Members of the Curriculum Committee and the AAS subcommittee offered assurances in this regard. Barnett asked whether courses in the program with varying content (for example, English 360) should have special indication in the Class Schedule when they include African-American content; Morgan stated that the "Remarks" section of a course listing could indicate "African-American Studies." Kerrick asked whether the capstone project in connection with the Group III course would place a burden on instructors. Jackson explained that the advisory committee would play an active role in the capstone projects.

Prompted by Clifford, discussion returned to the issue of faculty expertise. Clifford asked if we should ask for outside review of the proposal, and this idea led to consideration of the possibilities of limiting approval of the program to two years and engaging an outside consultant to be part of the review of the program at the end of the two years. Barnett argued that the University should not need outside review of curricular programs and that new programs benefit from faculty energy, enthusiasm, and expertise. Still pursuing what he characterized as a "cautionary note," Clifford M/S/F to amend the motion to include the understanding that a request be made to the Associate Dean to bring in a consultant in two years to be part of the review of the program. Magnus supported the proposal to engage a consultant. Kline commented that the process of developing a proposal such as this can--and usually does--take into account an outside perspective. Barnett argued that setting up the possibility of a consultant for the AAS minor might benefit the program in a way denied other programs, for example, the recently approved Latin American Studies Minor.

Following Bartanen's initiative, the committee agreed to table this motion until the next meeting, by which time the subcommittee can provide committee members with data regarding the advisory committee.

The committee adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne W. Barnett (6 Mar 96)