10-4-2012

# Curriculum minutes 10/04/2012

Curriculum Committee

*Members Present*:  Bart Finzel (chair), Charlie Abraham, Joe Alia, Donna Chollett, Carol Cook, Josh Godding, Aaron Goemann, Sara Haugen, Leslie Meek, Peh Ng, Gwen Rudney, Jeri Squier, Tisha Turk

*Members Absent*:   Clare Dingley, Pieranna Garavaso, Zac Van Cleve

*Visitors*:  Julie Eckerle, Melissa Engleman, Nancy Helsper

*In these minutes: Additional catalog course changes in the Division of the Humanities and in the Division of the Social Sciences; EDP criteria and selection of subcommittee*

## Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2012

MOTION (Chollett/Ng) to approve the September 27, 2012 minutes.  Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

## Catalog Course Changes

Finzel explained that two music courses (1350 and 3065), which have never been offered, are being deactivated.  Mgmt 3123 has added a Math prereq to make the course prereqs parallel with the requirements of the management subplan.  Psychology proposed to add "psy major or minor" to the prereqs for the research methods course.  This change will help control the demand for the course and enable those students who need the course to fulfill the new methods requirement.

**MOTION** (Rudney/Godding) to approve the four proposed course changes (Mus 1350 and 3065, Mgmt 3123, and Psy 2001).

The motion passed unanimously (11-0-0).

## Educational Development Program (EDP)

Finzel stated that the EDP program grants were increased last year, from $2,000 to $3,000, and the amount of money available to award was increased from $12,000 to $15,000.  A fourth item was added to the list of funding priorities as well.  The priorities were 1) Honors Program interdisciplinary courses; 2) courses that integrate sustainability across the liberal arts; 3) intellectual community (IC) courses; and 4) courses that utilize technology in innovative ways, including efforts to develop hybrid courses (courses offered partly online and partly in the classroom).

This year, the timeline has been moved to fall semester, and funding has been increased to $24,000, allowing eight proposals to be funded.  Finzel hopes to supplement those dollars with funds that are available in other budgets that relate to the course content, such as online learning.  Last year, the EDP subcommittee was careful to award only proposals that fit into one of the four priorities (with one exception).  Finzel invited the committee members to suggest changes to the priorities listed.  Rudney stated that she would be in favor of the addition of language that made it clear that course proposals in areas other than the current four priorities may also be considered.  Turk noted that as a member of last year's subcommittee, she found it difficult to have four priorities, especially because they were not ranked.  Also, there were quite a number of proposals-substantially more than could be funded.  It was difficult to weight proposals against each other.  She added that she thought that sustainability and technology were still high priorities.  There was once a very specific need for honors and IC courses, but she questioned whether they are still needed.  Squier stated that there are 18 honors courses listed in the course catalog, and only five honors courses were offered last

year. It is probably not necessary to have more honors courses. Finzel stated that IC courses are still needed in some disciplines. Ng agreed that, now that IC courses are attached to the disciplines, there remains a need for some disciplines to propose new IC courses. Finzel asked if it would be helpful to have a tighter, more specific list. The technology priority is perhaps not specific enough. We really want more innovative, hybrid types of courses. Turk agreed that it would be helpful to clarify it in the call for proposals so that faculty know what is wanted. The Curriculum Committee had those conversations when the technology priority was added, but that didn't come through in the language distributed to the faculty. The committee agreed that the fourth priority will be changed to "Efforts to develop innovative hybrid courses." Turk added that the call for proposals and charge to the subcommittee should also contain language that explains that, while there are funding priorities, other good proposals that will benefit a substantial number of students will be considered.

Finzel thanked the committee for its input and stated that he will be sending out the call for proposals next week. That should give faculty a month to prepare proposals for the November 16 deadline. The subcommittee will review them and submit a recommendation report to the Dean's Office by November 26, and report to the Curriculum Committee at the November 29 meeting. This year the call for EDP proposals will go out at the same time as the International Programs Committee's call for proposals for courses to internationalize the curriculum.

Goemann, Alia, and Turk volunteered to serve as the EDP review subcommittee, with Turk serving as the chair.

The next three meeting agendas will cover the academic program changes, with the Division of the Social Sciences and the Division of Science and Mathematics presenting on October 11; the Division of the Humanities presenting on October 18, and Education and Interdisciplinary Studies on October 25. There will be no meeting on November 1.

Submitted by Darla Peterson