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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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10-25-2000

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**University of Minnesota, Morris**  
**Morris, MN**

**MINUTES 2000-2001 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING # 5**

October 25, 2000 8:00 a.m. Behmler Conference Room

Present           Urness, DeJager, Kissock, Neuharth, Evans, Carlson, Finzel, Lee, Gooch, Korth, Mooney, Nellis, and Thielke  
Absent            Ostrowski, Chabel, Behrens

**DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS:** Some corrected forms for the Humanities Division curriculum change packet and a written review of curriculum changes for Education programs were distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER:** Korth introduced Karen Van Horn from the VCAA office who is replacing Melody Veenendaal.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Korth asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last Curriculum Committee (CC) meeting which was held on October 18, 2000.

**MOTION:** Motion made to approve minutes and seconded.

A CC member proposed two clarifications. In the fifth paragraph under the “Mathematics and Statistics Proposals” heading change “math and statistics and art” to “math and statistics or studio art and art history”. Also in the paragraph just before the vote on statistics, change “it is important to note when courses have labs because some majors have lab requirements” to “it is important to note when science courses have labs because some programs at other institutions have lab requirements”

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor as amended (10-0-0)

**EDUCATION DIVISION CURRICULUM CHANGE PROPOSALS:** Kissock discussed two documents that were distributed. Ed program text has changes due to impending NCATE requirements. The statement was changed in the first section from “encourage” to “ensure”. This was changed to reinforce the statement that “ We will stand by the claim that our students will help their students learn.” The handout from Kissock was just to put the changes and omissions discussed last week down on paper.

In the El Ed section a statement will be added talking about state and federal mandated exams. A CC member questioned if everyone will be tested? Kissock replied “yes”. Kissock noted that the rest is not changing much. In section IV a statement had been dropped off that was agreed on last year. This will be put back in along with the PPST statement.

Korth addressed the issue on the NC forms that there are no GER designations. The reasoning doesn’t seem adequate. Kissock explained that El Ed teachers teach all disciplines. The students get experience in all divisions because not getting GER courses in El Ed forces them to get their GER’s in other disciplines.

A CC Member questioned Section IV - is the “satisfactory C-” listed to accommodate upper division courses. Kissock said “yes”. The Member asked that if nothing is changing are they just clarifying the C-. Kissock replied “yes”. Another CC Member noted that a C- is an S, clarification needs to be made in a faculty’s syllabus if a C- is not recognized as an S.

A CC Member questioned the RC #1; it seems that the courses should drop a credit if they are dropping the field experience. Kissock said “We are doing this in Secondary Ed. ” He gave an example that before when UMM was on

quarters students would student teach for 3 weeks before UMM started and get no credit for it. With the new requirements there is more emphasis on students being in schools longer and we need to acknowledge that they are in schools longer. Separating out school time from class time will give credit where credit is due. The Member suggested that the rationale should be expanded on the form. Thielke questioned the credit requirement for a major. 50 in El Ed? Kisko responded that 50 credits include Psych and Drugs and Human Behavior. Secondary Methods for middle school students is also required. Thielke asked if Kisko had talked to Psych about this and he replied that it was approved last year.

A CC Member questioned No 5 Revision on the RC Form. There are 3 #5s. Kisko noted to delete the first # 5 Revision and also the last two sentences on rationale on the second and third # 5s. The Member also questioned the Honors course 3101H; it seems odd that not everyone is eligible for the honors course. Kisko explained that El Ed students need to be able to get honors but their schedules are full of education courses.

It was brought up again that there are no GER designations. Another CC Member stated that every course needs GER designation. Kisko again said he has given strong reason why there are no GER designations on Education courses.

Kisko discussed the El Ed form RC; Secondary Ed statements under note are essentially the same as El Ed, which included the previously approved statement on PPST test.

Humanities changes in teacher preparation requirements are included in the packet of corrections for Education. On page 2, form RC why are the credits changing for some methods courses and not for others, a Member asked. Kisko explained that 1 credit of Middle School Methods was added. El Ed Middle School Licensure requires 1 credit of Middle School Methods.

A CC Member brought up that the communication arts licensure requirements include only 8 courses but 11 courses are needed for the liberal arts major. Nellis noted that there is no longer English or Speech licensure and so the discipline will accept other courses in lieu of English for the teaching major. The English Department decided that if someone goes for licensure in communication arts they would automatically get an English Major.

Thielke noted that this is also true in Life Science and Biology. It Needs to be clear that students will get a Biology Major when they fulfill life science licensure requirements.

**MOTION (Understood):** - To approve the curriculum change for the Education, Elementary Education and Secondary Education disciplines.

**VOTE** – Unanimous in favor (10-0-0)

## **WELLNESS AND SPORTS SCIENCE**

A CC Member had a question on Part A, why are there less courses and more credits? Neuharth explained that a number of .5 credit skill courses were eliminated due to no one registering and no one to teach them. A number of classroom courses were added for more credits. A NC form is missing (WSS 4901).

Another CC Member questioned the 42 credits of WSS courses in the Athletic Training Education Program. With a 40-credit limit on credits in the discipline 2 credits would not count towards the degree. This will result in petitions to the Scholastic Committee. Kisko stated that by approving this program we are approving 42 credits in our discipline.

Thielke noted that this is interesting because the health and Phy Ed majors were removed and now there is a strong interest in wellness. Now there is one discipline instead of two. She doesn't know of other colleges that have a max on credits in one discipline.

A CC Member thinks the 40-credit limit is an absurd idea. If students need 42 credits to be prepared we should not be a slave to this rule. Nellis explained that the 40-credit limit is not a bad idea because every discipline would want more credits in the major if they could do it. There are good arguments for adding credits but we need to have well-rounded

students because we are a liberal arts school. If we decide on a number as a group we need to stick to it.

Kissock stated that Thielke was right, some of the current WSS courses were under the health discipline and we need to consider what Neuharth needs for training purposes. We don't want to add another discipline.

Thielke explained that in English, College Writing and Summer Theater were exempted from the discipline credit count. They did allow some students to exceed the maximum. A Member suggested that if every course has a GER designation then a maximum would not be needed. Another Member suggested that for purposes of Wellness and SS they should take it back and consider the 40 credit maximum before voting. Neuharth withdrew it.

Korth announced that we will meet next Thursday in addition to our regular meeting. Nellis asked if Humanities could be reviewed now.

## **HUMANITIES**

ART HISTORY PROPOSAL: Nellis explained that they have a new person in Art History, which accounts for some of the changes.

**MOTION** (Understood): To approve the curriculum change proposals for Art History.

**VOTE** Unanimous in favor (10-0-0)

STUDIO ART PROPOSAL: Nellis explained that in Studio Art there were essentially no changes. There were some radical changes in basic studio courses when changing to semesters and they want to go one more year before deciding on those changes. There is a correction on credits – something is wrong with their numbers.

**MOTION** (Understood): To approve the curriculum change proposals for Studio Art with corrected numbers.

**VOTE** Unanimous in favor (10-0-0)

## ENGLISH PROPOSAL:

Nellis stated that English is in the midst of retirements and hiring new faculty, which is causing re-vamping of courses. The curriculum is left pretty much the same except they are adding a pre-requisite of Engl 1100 because students are getting into upper division courses without sufficient background.

A CC Member questioned if there will be variable topics in English. There are no 4000 level courses in variable topics; will it be just Senior Seminar? Another Member noted that only 4000 variables were taken out. Nellis explained that more than 1 Senior Seminar can be taken but won't count towards the 40 credits. See the handout for corrections on the Form RC, course revision # 28.

Korth noted that he counted 8 courses deleted and only 4 added yet the Form A indicates a net change of adding two courses. Also if the statement "not offered" is deleted then the class needs to be offered every year. If it is "offered when feasible" then it should say that. Nellis will take this back and have #5 changed to read "offered when feasible" instead of just taking off "not offered".

Meeting adjourned 9:02 a.m.  
Submitted by Karen Van Horn

Send comments to Karen Van Horn: [vanhornk@morris.umn.edu](mailto:vanhornk@morris.umn.edu)

Send comments to Curriculum Committee: [curriculum@morris.umn.edu](mailto:curriculum@morris.umn.edu)