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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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4-30-2001

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

**MINUTES 2000-2001 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING # 17**

April 30, 2001 3:30 p.m. Behmler Conference Room

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

Guests: Jeanne Purdy, Becky Baudoin and Mike Schwerin

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Korth asked for a motion to approve the minutes from April 16, 2001.

**MOTION:** (Chabel, Urness) Understood

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor (6-0-0)

**HONORS PROGRAM CHANGES:**

Becky Baudoin discussed the proposed changes to the Honors Program as presented in the handout distributed to CC members. The two changes proposed are the addition of a service component to the Honors Program and the replacement of the reaction papers with a journal. Becky explained that students in the honors program had requested that a community service component be added as a requirement in the Honors Program. The students also supported the replacement of the reaction papers with a journal. The reaction papers were done after each honors event attended but were of no real use or value. The journal would be a complete record of the entire experience in the Honors Program where the Honors Students would record their thought, impressions, etc. The journal would give a better idea of what the students get out of the Honors Program and how it has changed them. Jeanne Purdy also explained that through the mentor part of the program each student will be assigned a mentor who will sign the journals and discuss honors activities attended.

**MOTION:** (Carlson, Chabel) To approve proposed changes in the Honors Program

Discussion: A member questioned why a service component was being added. Mike Schwerin responded that it was an area that the Honor Program Students felt was missing from the current program. Carol McCannon will help the Honors Program with the service component. A CC member questioned the fact that the Honors Program already takes up so much time how can another component be added? Jeanne Purdy responded that it would only add about 1/2 hour per week (8 hours per semester). It was the students in the program that decided service was missing from the program and wanted it added. A CC member questioned if the program were to also build community within the Honors Program itself how would it do that if projects were done individually such as tutoring. Jeanne Purdy indicated that most projects will be done as a group although there will be some that are done individually. Mike Schwerin noted that there will be 1 individual project within the 4 years and there will be a certain number of group projects per year. Another CC member expressed concern that the service component would add extra burden since a senior honors project is also required. Another member questioned if the independent project would replace the seniors honor project. Jeanne Purdy indicated that it would not and Mike Schwerin explained that the two projects could actually be combined. Jeanne Purdy gave examples of the service projects such as tutoring, reading stories at the villa, etc. A CC member stated that he was comfortable with the changes and suggested voting on them now but would like to see a committee review of the entire honors program next fall. A CC member asked that page 50 in the catalog be amended to be clearer. The amendment is as follows "To graduate "with honors," participants must (1) complete one honors course per year of participation; (2) participate in four honors *co-curricular* or extracurricular activities per year of participation..." The amendment would be changed on the web, in the honors program brochure and in the next catalog. A CC member questioned who would be subject to these guidelines. Jeanne Purdy stated they would suggest that all students in the honors program follow these guidelines. Korth explained that it would apply to those joining the program after this goes into effect but noted

from the information received from the Honors Program representatives that students currently in the program are in favor of the recommendation and that they could voluntarily go with the new requirements.

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor (7-0-0)

#### RESOLUTION ON UNDISCLOSED ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

**MOTION:** (Chabel, Evans) To approve proposed resolution.

Discussion on the resolution that was distributed at the previous curriculum committee meeting. A member of the sub-committee stated that the intent was to address student concerns but also to not restrict professors from adding activities. The sub-committee felt the proposed resolution would accommodate both issues. Discussion among members about the wording and “out of class time”. To clarify the wording it was decided by the CC to change the wording to read “outside of *regular* class time”. A member indicated that this information should be listed in the class schedule so students can plan their time when registering. Information from the faculty would be necessary to have commitments outside of regular class time put in the class schedule. Korth stated this would go to Campus Assembly for informational purposes.

**VOTE:** Unanimous in favor with discussed editorial changes (6-0-0)

#### NEW TEACHERS NEW TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

A memo from Craig Kissock, Division of Education Chair was submitted to CC for discussion. Kissock noted that we should hear whether the grant is funded approximately May 31, 2001. The proposal would require teacher education students to purchase a laptop computer to be used throughout their teacher education and beginning years of employment. Some members raised question about the cost of the laptops falling on the students. One member stated this raises two issues, 1) the potential of a more exclusionary program for education and 2) setting a precedent for other departments. The discussion of the cost of the laptop to the student between CC members brought up issues of the cost of textbooks, lab fee, art supplies, music supplies, etc in other areas. Kissock explained that the students need laptops so UMM can keep in touch with students who are away from campus student teaching and to also keep in touch with students after they graduate. Some members again questioned the cost to students and the issue that other majors could implement similar requirements. These members stated they thought the proposal was a bad idea. Kissock explained that the cost of the laptop could go through financial aid. The grant money will be used to bring in people/faculty/consultants to help integrate the technology. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.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)