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University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, Minnesota

MINUTES 1999-00 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING #6
January 26, 2000; 10:30 AM; Moccasin Flower Room

Present: Carlson, Evans, Farrell, Finzel, Gooch, Kissock, Kolle, Korth, Lee, Neuharth, Urness
Guest: Mooney
Absent: Busch, Richardson, Thielke, VanEps

[In these minutes: EIED and SeEd Forms A and B, IS 2021 Form C, reinstatement of "H" suffix on course numbers, timelines and procedures for new catalog production, format of Form C.]

MISCELLANEOUS: Korth handed out copies of the University College Intersession catalog for information purposes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Korth asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last Curriculum Committee meeting which was held November 23, 1999. There were none, so Korth declared the minutes approved.

CURRICULAR CHANGE FORMS: Kissock mentioned that the EIED and SeEd changes were essentially identical. The changes were made at the request of the psychology faculty for students who are majoring in psychology and education. This makes it easier for the students to substitute the more in-depth Psy 3401 and Psy 3402 for the required Psy 1061. The changes do not represent a new initiative. This substitution is a frequent request of psychology majors.

MOTION: (Understood) To approve the curricular change forms EIED A and B and SeEd A and B.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor (11-0-0)

The Curriculum Committee (CC) then discussed the Form C for the proposed new course, IS 2021-UC: Service Learning and Mentoring. Korth mentioned that the course was currently going through the provisional approval process for the current semester. The CC was to discuss the permanent approval of the course for future offerings.

Kissock mentioned that he had discussed this form with the instructor, Judy Kuechle, and that she had agreed that the form should not read "students from West Central Schools." There may be more service learning opportunities created, so the course should not be approved exclusively for West Central Schools.

A CC member questioned the GER designator assigned to IS 2021, Ethical and Civic Responsibility. Another member mentioned the need for more discussion regarding granting credit for service learning projects. The member recognized that service learning seems to be a common practice in the academic world today, but the member felt a need to be better educated about service learning projects before voting on approving them for credit. Questions that the member felt needed to be answered revolved around what constitutes service learning, what place does service learning have in the liberal arts curriculum in general, and its place in the liberal arts curriculum at UMM.

Another member agreed that the CC needed to be better informed regarding service learning. This member felt the decision was similar to the struggle the CC had with granting credit for tutors in the Academic Assistance Center and credit for TAs in the TA practicum. The committee member recognized that service learning has value, but did not feel equipped to decide on what that value was. The member would like to know more, such as what was involved in the service learning, what was the background of the project, and what activity was involved. The CC member wanted to be certain that credit was not granted for simply showing up.

It was mentioned that this course was already approved by the CC under the quarter system. The course was now on the agenda to seek permanent approval for the semester version. A committee member felt that, regardless of the course

having been approved under quarters, it was still necessary to have discussion and to be informed as to how the service learning fits in the UMM liberal arts curriculum. Another member agreed, stating there was no need to rush this since the provisional approval process was taking place for the current semester.

MOTION: (Kissock, understood) To table the permanent application for IS 2021 - UC: Service Learning and Mentoring until discussion
has been held with appropriate guests regarding service learning and its place in the UMM curriculum.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor (11-0-0-)

REINSTATEMENT OF "H" SUFFIX ON COURSE NUMBERS: Korth explained that in converting from quarters to semesters, UMM was required to eliminate the "H" suffix on Honors course numbers. This decision has now been reversed; UMM is now required to convert Honors course numbers to include the "H" suffix. Mooney handed out a summary of the course number changes, stating that the changes are effective for fall 2000. Mooney noted that in most cases, the course number would be converted to the same number as the non-honors course number, with the "H" suffix added. The title of the course would remain the same with "Honors" as part of the course title. A course that is offered as honors and non-honors would be listed twice. Korth pointed out that the old numbers that had been used for the honors courses for the 1999-2000 academic year would remain in the database forever since students will have those course numbers on their transcripts.

TIMELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR NEW CATALOG PRODUCTION: Korth stated that the deadline for the divisions to submit curricular changes for the next two-year catalog to the Curriculum Committee would be October 1, 2000. Mooney mentioned that the CC must be finished with the approval process by the end of October. A committee member suggested that the CC chair should send a communication to the faculty, reminding them that UMM is on a different schedule for the upcoming year and that the faculty should plan ahead for the October 1 deadline.

A committee member wondered whose decision it was to produce a catalog every two years instead of every 3 - 4 years. Mooney stated that UMM was under the mercy of the Twin Cities editors. The entire university system was required to update the catalog every two years. Korth also mentioned that the catalogs are incorrect the day they come from the printer. If UMM waited three years, the catalog would be seriously outdated. The important thing for UMM faculty to realize is that UMM is required to complete a catalog every two years, and this upcoming year has a firm deadline of October 1 for submissions to the catalog.

REVISION OF THE FORM C: Korth stated that this issue had arisen in fall semester CC meetings and he wondered if the CC would like to discuss the issue further. A committee member stated that the current form was cumbersome and excessively detailed. A suggestion was made to create two versions of Form C, a short version for changes in existing courses and a long version for instituting new courses. Mooney mentioned that a similar procedure had been used in the past, but she had been inundated with telephone calls from faculty unsure of which form to use. The hope was that this form, being electronic, would allow faculty the ability to delete the sections that were not needed. In response, a committee member stated that abbreviated versions of the form had never been submitted to the CC.

Discussion ensued as to how to eliminate what was perceived as excessive detail and yet get all the pertinent and correct information to Mooney and Mullin for the catalog and institutional data records. Korth suggested that perhaps a couple of CC members might volunteer to meet with Mooney and him to work on the form. Finzel and Neuharth volunteered to work with them on this project.

Meeting adjourned 11:17 a.m.
Submitted by Melody Veenendaal

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