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### Curriculum minutes 12/02/1998

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University of Minnesota, Morris  
Morris, Minnesota

**MINUTES-1998-99 CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING #05**

December 2, 1998; 8:00 a.m.; Behmler Conference Room

Present: Cerar, Frenier, Haugen, Kissock, Korth, Lee, Leroux, McIntosh, Thielke

Guest(s): Mooney, Senior

Absent: Busch, Farrell, Neuharth, Taylor, Utoft, Woll

[In these minutes: Revised Social Science computing and writing skills statements; 1999-2000 semester calendar changes; Honors Program Committee (continued).]

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Korth listed two agenda items he wished to add; a revised statement of computing and writing skills for Social Science Division and a change in the 1999-2000 spring semester calendar.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Korth asked for corrections or additions to the previous minutes. There were none so minutes were approved by a voice vote.

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

**REVISED COMPUTING AND WRITING STATEMENTS FROM SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION:** Lee explained to the CC that he felt the best way to handle this was to throw out the statements passed out at the last meeting and replace them in their entirety with this new statement. He stated that after the CC passed the proposed statements he brought them back to his division as promised. He made it clear to his division that this was the bulletin copy, not just a copy for CC records. At that point it was discovered that the statements contained some incomplete sentences and other errors, so the statements were rewritten. Lee referred the CC members to the brief addendum that summarized the changes and additions to the previous statements. He noted that Latin American Area Studies, Liberal Arts for the Human Services and the Social Science major statements were additions to the previous statements and therefore had not been passed. Also, the Psychology statement was deleted since that had been passed previously.

Frenier asked how these statements would be reported in the future on forms such as Form B. Korth said in the future this statement would be included on Form B under IV, Requirements for a Major.

Korth then asked for a voice vote to approve the Social Science Division's revised statements.

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

**1999-2000 SPRING SEMESTER CALENDAR CHANGES:** Korth handed out copies of the 1999-2000 academic year calendar as printed in the Semester Transition Course Catalog. He commented that he had sent e-mail regarding the fall semester final exam schedule change. Korth said the spring semester had a similar but larger question. He noted that the calendar lists the final day of instruction for spring semester as Monday, May 8. He questioned the usefulness of this day as a day of instruction. Most faculty he has talked with feel the day would not be useful. Korth stated that the Twin City campus ends the instruction days on Friday, May 5. This allows for 74 days of instruction. UMM has 74 days of instruction in the fall semester schedule, so Korth wondered why not have 74 days for spring semester also. He felt this would ease up the final exam schedule. Korth suggested changing the calendar to set the last day of instruction as Friday, May 5, Saturday as study day, and final exams on Monday -Thursday. Commencement would then be scheduled for Friday as it has been in the past. Schuman had requested the CC to consider this change. Lee commented that it makes sense.

**MOTION:** (Kissock, Lee) Change the 1999-2000 Academic Calendar to, "Last day of instruction - Friday, May 5; spring semester study day - Saturday, May 6; spring semester examinations - Monday-Thursday, May 8-11; UMM Commencement - Friday, May 12."

Leroux asked if there would be anything in print regarding this change. Thielke said it would show up in the class schedule. Mooney said it would also be in the catalog received April 1 and on the WEB.

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

**HONORS PROGRAM COMMITTEE (CONTINUED):** Korth mentioned that we have discussed this at several meetings. He stated he would

like the CC to reach some point of finality with this issue. Senior said he had a proposal to present to the Curriculum Committee. He noted that the CC apparently didn't want the Honors Program to report to the Functions and Awards Committee. He noted that the Curriculum Committee wanted to disband the Honors Program Committee. Senior stated his concern over the amount of red tape required to form a new Assembly committee. He mentioned that Schuman had suggested seeking a small consultative committee similar in form to the Common Course committee. This committee is an unofficial committee that appears to be operating efficiently and is able to function without being an official Assembly committee. Kissock noted that issues of policy would continue to be brought to the Curriculum Committee.

McIntosh said this proposal sounds like the proposal brought to the Campus Assembly that was voted down. Lee commented that the CC can present it again, this time stressing the well-selected advisory board. Lee stated this would be his second choice, but it was a viable option. Senior questioned if it was the will of the Assembly that we form another Assembly committee? Lee felt they wanted the abolition of the Assembly committee, but if the Honors Program were left to the whim of the director they would not approve. Lee feels that if Campus Assembly was assured that it was a will-chosen board, it might fly.

Thielke mentioned that Campus Assembly had talked of folding MAP, UROP and Honors into one committee. Senior said it was unclear if they wanted to form a new committee or to form a subcommittee. He said he was anxious to get tasks underway. He pointed out that the first quarter had already gone by and he realizes it would take weeks to get an official committee functioning. He would like to form a carefully selected advisory group

**MOTION:** (Kissock, Frenier) That the director of the Honors Program form an advisory group to assist in guiding the procedures of the Honors Program and that any issues regarding policy be brought to the Curriculum Committee for approval.

Kissock mentioned that this motion would say to the Campus Assembly that CC had reviewed the Honors Program oversight and the CC has a procedure for oversight in place.

Korth wondered if the motion implied the deletion of the Honors Program Committee from the UMM bylaws. Senior felt it did. Korth asked if there was further discussion. Leroux wondered where MAP and UROP fit in this. Senior said they would be part of the advisory group also. Senior stated that UROP has their own committee, representing all areas of the campus. The committee's function is to read the student applications that are submitted. He stated that neither MAP nor UROP needs policy revisions. UROP is a Twin Cities initiative and MAP students apply to the Dean's office. Leroux asked if it was Senior's intention to continue to use the committee already existing for UROP. Senior said he would use this committee, but if policy issues come up they would go to CC.

Korth wondered if the motion on the table should be expanded to include UROP and MAP. Senior said it probably should. Korth wondered if the director of UROP was to be included. Senior was told by Schuman that he was to coordinate UROP, MAP and Honors. He would understand this to be only one director.

McIntosh stated he is not in favor of joining Honors, UROP, and MAP. He supports the MAP and UROP programs, but feels Honors is redundant and unnecessary. Senior said he hopes to change minds on that issue. He recognizes that the programs are related and that similar programs attract similar students. Senior stated he is working to mesh the programs so an honors student could use his UROP or MAP to take the place of the senior honors project. McIntosh expressed concern that he doesn't want the Honors Program to soak up resources. Senior commented that the programs all have separate budgets. Lee said McIntosh's concern would be greater on a large campus. Lee feels that it should be tried for a year or so and if problems arise, reevaluate at that time.

Kissock said the issue of problems with the Honors Program needs to be addressed, but the issue before the CC is how policy for these programs is to be decided. He recommended amending the motion on the table to include MAP and UROP. Kissock said if a problem develops, the programs could be separated.

**AMENDED MOTION:** (Understood) That the director of Honors, UROP, and MAP form an advisory group to assist in guiding procedures of these programs and that any issues regarding policy be brought to the Curriculum Committee for approval.

Leroux stated that along with the advisory committee bringing policy issues to the CC, he understands that the CC will have oversight of the advisory group. He expects the advisory group will bring reports of how the programs are executed to the CC. Senior stated the only real issue with UROP is that enough students apply for the UROPs available. Since this program is a Twin Cities initiative, there are few policy considerations. Senior wondered if McIntosh saw a problem with UROPs. McIntosh said he did not.

Leroux stated he leaned toward supporting the motion since it would provide the director of the Honors Program opportunity to improve the program. The motion allows for a fresh start. Leroux feels the Honors Program should be watched to see if it continues to flounder. Senior said the issues with the Honors Program were that there were not enough courses. He stated that programs such as UROP, Honors and MAPs distinguish UMM from other public institutions. He plans to work with students and faculty to improve the programs.

Frenier stated that she shares McIntosh's concern. She feels that if students choose MAP and UROP, the programs should be strengthened. McIntosh stated that UMM has tried to prop up Honors a number of times. He feels there is a lack of faculty commitment and resource limitations. Senior agreed that Honors is on a shoestring budget. He has, however, talked with directors of other Honors Programs from other institutions who have managed on similar shoestring budgets.

Lee feels that too frequently courses are listed as Honors for prestige rather than substance. He would appreciate a review of this. Senior agreed to the possibility of this review. He suggested the possibility of a faculty workshop. Senior did feel, however, that these were wider policy issues and that he would like the CC to address the issue at hand, of an advisory board to the Honors Program.

**SECOND REVISION TO MOTION:** (Understood) 1) Delete the Honors Program Committee from the UMM bylaws; 2) That the director of Honors, MAP, and UROP form an advisory group to assist in conducting those programs; 3) That issues of policy concerning these programs will come to the Curriculum Committee for approval.

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

**SCHEDULE FOR WINTER QUARTER MEETINGS:** After reviewing the schedules that have been submitted at this time, Korth decided it was too early to make any decision regarding winter quarter meetings. He reminded committee members to submit their schedules as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned 8:35 a.m.  
Submitted by Melody Veenendaal