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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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UMM CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

2018-19 MEETING #3 Minutes

September 20, 11:40 a.m., Moccasin Flower Room

Members Present: Janet Ericksen (chair), Stacey Aronson, Arne Kildegaard, Peh Ng, Wes Flinn (for Denise Odello), Michelle Page, Stephen Crabtree, Stephen Gross, Benjamin Narvaez, Simon Franco, Stephanie Ferrian, Christina Munoz, Josh Westfield, Kellie Meehlhause, and Judy Korn

Members Absent: Annika Nelson, Denise Odello

Visitors: Nancy Helsper, Jeri Squier, Rebecca Dean, and Wes Flinn

In these minutes: Division of Science and Mathematics Catalog Program and Course Changes

Introductions and Announcements

Ericksen reminded the committee that all of our catalog changes must be approved no later than the November 8 meeting in order to make it on the BOR agenda at its February 8 meeting. Proposals must have discipline and division approval before coming to this committee.

Approval of Minutes from September 13, 2018 Meeting

Minutes were approved with minor corrections by unanimous voice vote.

Division of Science and Mathematics Catalog Program and Course Changes

Biology (BIOL)

Ng stated that there is a reduction in the number of credits required in the major (1) and the number of courses in the discipline is reduced because of some deactivated courses. Clean-up of courses in the catalog was done to better align with reality. Biol 3121 changed from 5 credits to 4 credits to align with the other 3000-level core course that is 4 credits. The grading basis for Biol 4901 was changed from “student option” to “A-F only.” Franco asked if Biol’s lab time would be reduced. Ng answered that there would not be less time. There would be two 65-minute lectures and one 3-hour lab. Biol 1101 was removed as a prerequisite for Biol 2101 and 2111 because it has been deactivated after not being taught for many years. Five courses have been deactivated because the instructor is no longer at UMM. Ng stated that there are two new Biol courses proposed. Biol 4302–Plant Physiology will be taught by a new faculty member and will replace an elective that was deactivated. Biol 4335–Ecology of Agriculture can also be used to partially fill the void left by the deactivation of Biol 4332. Its prerequisite will be Biol 3131–Ecology.

MOTION (Ng/Crabtree): To approve the proposed program and course changes in Biology.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Chemistry (CHEM)

Ng stated that a significant change in Chemistry is that up to 2 courses with a grade of D or D+ may be used to meet the major requirements if offset by an equivalent number of credits of A or B. The old requirement stated that up to 8 credits of coursework with a grade of D or D+ may be used to meet the major requirements if offset by an equivalent number of A or B. They want to make sure they don’t have more than 2 courses at the upper level with Ds offset by a lower level course. They are trying to be flexible without having too many courses. Franco stated that most majors have a one-D limit. Crabtree stated that only allowing Ds in the electives would hold some students back in a sequential major. A lot of

courses are offered once a year or once every other year. Ng noted that she thought the new language offered more flexibility for students. No more than 2 courses a student chooses to count toward the major may be a D grade. Helsper noted that to offset a grade with an A or B is very common, so if we ask Chemistry to change then we'd have to ask everyone to make the change. Ng stated that there are title changes to two courses: CHEM 3501–Physical Chemistry I will change to Physical Chemistry: Thermodynamics. CHEM 3502–Physical Chemistry II will change to Physical Chemistry: Quantum Mechanics. In the latter course the course description has been updated to be more descriptive and one prerequisite was removed. There are two new courses: CHEM 1802–The Climate Change Conundrum, an IC course which was preliminarily approved, and CHEM 4357–Chem Biol Methods, a course that will be taught by a new instructor. Ericksen stated that she would like to see the IC course offered as a summer course as well. Korn cautioned that a student cannot take it for the IC Gen Ed and the SCI Gen Ed. A course should not satisfy two Gen Ed requirements.

MOTION (Ng/Kildegaard): To approve the proposed program and course changes in Chemistry.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Computer Science (CSCI)

Ng explained that there is an increase in the number of 3000-level courses listed in the catalog. There were no reductions in courses. Improvements have been made to the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). Korn noted that CSCI is the only major at Morris that allows an S-N grade in 4000-level courses. Ericksen noted that the senior seminar is S-N only. Korn continued to state that there may be a problem for students to transfer out or apply for graduate school with an S-N grade at the 4000 level. Ericksen asked Ng if the CSCI discipline discussed the issue. Ng stated that she will ask them and propose any changes in a future catalog. Ng stated that there are two new courses CSCI 3701–Intermediate Data Science, and 4659–Process, Programming, and Languages: Measuring and Managing Software Quality. CSCI 3701 is cross-listed with STAT 3701.

MOTION (Ng/Kildegaard): To approve the proposed program and course changes in Computer Science.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Environmental Science (ESCI)

No changes were proposed for this catalog cycle.

Geology (GEOL)

Ng noted that all changes to GEOL were approved by Campus Assembly last spring.

Mathematics (MATH)

Ng stated that the only change in MATH is the renumbering of an elective course MATH 4201–Complex Analysis to 3222. The course is more accessible and appropriate at the 3000 level. The addition of MATH 2101 as a prerequisite will make it more flexible for physics majors and a more attractive elective to a larger group of students.

MOTION (Ng/Crabtree): To approve the proposed program and course change in Mathematics.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Physics (PHYS)

Ng noted that two courses are being deactivated because they will no longer be taught (PHYS 1802 and 3153).

MOTION (Ng/Franco): To approve the proposed program and course changes in Physics.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Statistics (STAT)

Ng noted that STAT 3701–Intermediate Data Science is a new course addition that was made to develop a data science minor. This is a continuation of a pre-existing course sequence. It is cross-listed with CSCI 3701. It is not counted toward the Statistics major or minor.

MOTION (Ng/Crabtree): To approve the proposed course change in Statistics.

VOTE: (12-0-0)

Submitted by Darla Peterson