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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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9-10-2020

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## **UMN Morris Curriculum Committee**

September 10, 2020, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #2

Zoom

Members Present: Janet Ericksen (Chair), Stacey Aronson, Barbara Burke, Jennifer Deane, Simón Franco, Stephen Gross, Nic McPhee, Marcus Muller, Peh Ng, Ben Narvaez, Michelle Page, John Barber

Members Absent:

Others present: Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps, Emma Kloos

### **In these minutes: Catalog Review for Science and Mathematics**

#### #1 Welcome and announcements

All those present introduced themselves. We are hoping for more student representatives.

There will be an extra meeting next week, Thursday, 1:00-2:00. It will be the carryover if necessary from this meeting and discussion about the writing requirement. Ericksen will share a document prior to the meeting that outlines the rationale for the change and provides a comparison with the Twin Cities requirement.

#### #2 Approval of Minutes

McPhee, Deane motion to approve the minutes from August 27, 2020. Motion passed (10-0-0).

#### #3 Catalog: Science and Mathematics

Ng shared her summary document.

#### **Biology**

Motion from Biology to approve catalog changes; McPhee seconded the motion. Two new courses were presented, BIOL 1008 and BIOL 1081. Ericksen asked how often the BIOL 1081 course will be offered. Ng believes that it will be on a regular basis, concurrent with Athena's course. Three changes are presented on the Multicourse revision form: BIOL 1054, BIOL 1803, BIOL 4104. BIOL 1054 course description changed to provide a difference from IC class. Students then can take both. McPhee asked about enrollment in BIOL 1054 and 1803 - was there demand to take both? Ng confirmed that there was. No significant changes in Biology as shown on Form A - only the addition of the 1xxx level courses.

Vote: (10-0-0)

#### **Chemistry**

Motion from Chemistry to approve catalog changes. Seconded by McPhee. Chemistry proposed a new subfield, Green and Sustainable Chemistry, with a cluster of new courses. The committee had no questions about the new courses: CHEM 2201, 2202, 3201, 4201. The discipline also

wishes to add CHEM 3503 as an elective. Page asked about the new subplan and if its requirements will be offered on a regular basis. Ng assured that faculty have addressed that issue. Other additions to the discipline are new tenure track faculty courses. Ng reviewed the multicourse revision form.

Ericksen questioned the limited explanation for CHEM 3407 changing from 2 to 3 credits and being offered in the summer. Ng explained that it is an online course and the faculty plans to offer more course content. The committee agreed that the sponsoring faculty will be asked to provide an expanded rationale for the change prior to it going to campus assembly. (Update - response from faculty: *Currently, the course is taught during the academic year. Moving forward, the course will be offered most frequently online as a 3 cr course which will allow for expanded course content relative to the 2 cr academic year offering of the course. Expanded course content will include: (i) a unit covering fundamental concepts of polymer properties for students who have previously not taken Chem 3406; and (ii) a unit on conducting polymers and conducting polymer synthesis. No Gen Ed designator since prereqs have Sci Gen Ed.*)

Burke questioned why CHEM 4352 Synthesis is named just Synthesis. Ng assured that it is an industry common name. Two courses are deactivated: CHEM 3301 (which is also ESCI 3301) and 3801.

Ng reviewed Form B. The new subplan, Green and Sustainable Chemistry, has been added due to student interest. McPhee asked why General Physics was removed from the core curriculum. Ng explained that it was moved into the subfield requirements and gives students an option in some of the subfields. Ericksen commented that she supports the new subplan. Ng reviewed the form A.

Vote: (9-0-0)

### **Computer Science**

Motion from Computer science to approve catalog changes. Franco seconded. Two new courses have been presented - CSCI 4410 and 4610. 15 courses are being deactivated due to renumbering and faculty retirements. CSCI 1302 description is revised to reflect new course content. CSCI 3412 and 3413 are revised with the new course number. CSCI 4403 is proposed to be changed from 2 credits to 4 credits with the addition of course topics.

Vote: (10-0-0)

### **Environmental Science**

Motion from Environmental science to approve catalog changes. Franco seconded. No new courses. One deactivation: ESci 3301.

Vote: (10-0-0)

### **Geology**

Motion from Geology to approve catalog changes. Franco seconded. Three new courses need regular approval: GEOL 1801 and 1802 are new IC courses; GEOL 3012 is a new course on

global change. A change to GEOL 2121 removes the 2101 prerequisite and replaces it with 1101. GEOL 1802 description was updated to make it clear that outside of class time may be required.

Vote: (9-0-0)

### **Mathematics**

Motion from Mathematics to approve catalog changes. Deane seconded. MATH 1010 is a new 2-credit transfer-friendly class that replaces 0-credit Math 0901. This reflects other recent efforts to move away from 0 credit courses. Four other course changes. Courses being deactivated: 09014, 3501, 3502. MATH 4452 is renumbered to 2452 to allow sophomores to take it and to balance the number of 2xxx and 4xxx courses.

Vote: (9-0-0)

### **Physics**

Motion from Physics to approve catalog changes. Page seconded. A new biomedical physics course is being added, PHYS 3154. Ericksen asked about prerequisites. Ng assured the committee that the prerequisites will not be a barrier. McPhee asked about whether it should be a 2xxx level course, but Ng said that it is usually taken by juniors or seniors. This course does not have GenEd indicators, as they are covered by the prerequisites. PHYS 1091 has a minor description change. Term offered for PHYS 3501 is being changed. Same for PHYS 2201, which also has a slight change in description. PHYS 3152 is removing a math prerequisite. PHYS 1802, 3153, 1005 are being deactivated due to faculty leaving.

Vote: (8-0-0)

There are no changes for Curriculum Committee to approve in Statistics or Data Science minor.

Next week's meeting will focus on the proposed revision to the general education writing requirement.