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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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9-9-2021

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UMN Morris Curriculum Committee

September 9, 2021, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #1

Zoom

Members Present: Peh Ng (Chair), Jade Allard, Stacey Aronson, John Barber, Barbara Burke, Rebecca Dean, Jennifer Deane, Stephanie Ferrian, Simón Franco, Kiel Harell, Grace Hiltner, Rachel Johnson, Nic McPhee, Marcus Muller, Ben Narvaez, Michelle Page

Members Absent: Shanda Pittman

Others present: Janet Ericksen, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

In these minutes: Gen Ed

#1 Welcome, introductions and announcements

Minutes from April 22, 2021 passed by electronic vote (6,0,0)

All present introduced themselves. Two new students have joined the committee for this year.

#2 GenEd - moving forward with our plans

Ng shared a document that summarizes the GenEd work and moving forward steps.

Narvaez asked for clarification about whether or not the current set of GenEd requirements can be considered for continuing. Ericksen stated that the current requirements can remain an option, but would need to be clarified and updated to meet the criteria being used for GenEd work. Allard asked where to see the current requirements and was directed to the OneStop [webpage](#). TC will be reviewing their current set of Liberal Education requirements, but they are not making transfer requirements a main consideration.

It is a non-catalog year so moving forward with GenEd should be a priority for the Curriculum Committee. There will be a campus wide discussion regarding GenEds on October 12, 2021. Ng reviewed the bullet items under the moving forward section of the document. The Steering Committee has also allocated Community Hour times in January and February for continued discussion. Ericksen added that the bullet items in the document are the questions to ask, not necessarily a list of decisions. Franco clarified that high impact should be changed to “experiential learning requirement” per [AACU](#). Burke wants us to research what is being done on other campuses and provide examples to our faculty. Narvaez supports having examples. He also shared that having discussions at the division level will be helpful for the process. Dean clarified that the discussion first needs to be asking if the three bullet items could be supported. Based on that discussion, concrete plans could be put together for a vote in late spring semester. Ng clarified that they are not a “package” and should be considered independently. Page spoke in favor of a singular capstone experience. Aronson shared her opinion that disciplines will push back on this item.

#3 Other regular items in our agenda this year

- Ng asked for volunteers to be on the Curriculum Innovation review committee.
- ECAS and PCAS are going to be replaced with DegreeCat. Ng will arrange for a presentation at the next meeting.
- This is year two of the new Academic Program Review cycle. Eight programs will be invited to speak with the Curriculum Committee during Spring 2022 Semester.

- Ericksen stated last spring at Campus Assembly that provisional review of courses will be limited to emergencies. There will be an opportunity for regular approval for courses in January of non-catalog years. The committee will review courses in October this year as well. In order to be reviewed at the Curriculum Committee, it has to already have been approved at the discipline and division levels. Ng asked Division Chairs to work with discipline coordinators to get the approvals needed before Curriculum Committee approval. Squier asked for clarification about “emergencies”. Ericksen clarified that provisional review should only be used for visiting professors or true emergencies. Also, due to the approvals needed, it may be necessary to set Curriculum Committee approval later than January.
- Franco would like to see continued discussion of the IC courses. The current structure doesn’t provide an equal experience for all students. Dean spoke about work already done to combine WLA, IC and Morris 1101/1102. Squier shared that if and when everything is back in person, room scheduling could be a complicating factor in this as well. McPhee cautioned against small changes that limit big changes in the future.
- Muller shared that discussion has been started at the Scholastic Committee regarding how AP courses transfer in.

Meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.