

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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11-11-2021

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UMN Morris Curriculum Committee

November 11, 2021, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #5

Zoom

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

Members Absent: Jade Allard, Jennifer Deane, Grace Hiltner

Others present: Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

In these minutes: Gen Ed

#1 Welcome and announcements

Welcomed new student member Vanessa Mora. All present introduced themselves.

Ng would like the Curriculum Committee to meet additional times in the spring semester for us to have discussions and make decisions on our Gen Ed revisions. Right now, most of our Spring 2022 scheduled meetings are for the academic program reviews. She asked all CC members to update their google calendars for Spring 2022 by December 1, when scheduling will begin for these additional meetings. Narvaez commented that he is on sabbatical in the spring.

Ng reminded everyone that the February 10, 2022 CC meeting is the only Spring 2022 date that CC will be considering course changes or new courses for approval. Anything approved will then be presented to Campus Assembly on March 1, 2022.

#2 Minutes from October 21, 2021

Zoom poll to approve minutes from Meeting #4 - October 21, 2021. Motion made by Barber, seconded by Page. Minutes approved (9-0-0).

#3 GenEd discussion

Ng asked to hear from the two subcommittees.

Johnson spoke first from the Experiential Learning and First Year Experience subcommittee. They met once. Adrienne Conley, Associate Director of Community Life, will be assisting the subcommittee. The subcommittee discussed how existing first year courses could be utilized to create a first year experience and how experiential learning could be tracked and tagged and part of the first year experience. They also met with Stephanie Ferrian and Charise DeBerry for input on experiential learning from their area. McPhee asked for clarity about what resources are available for changes. Are there resources for bringing WLA into the first year experience? Ng asked for the subcommittee to propose what is needed to make the proposal work. Ng will take proposals to the administrative group to determine what can be done. Also, changes may be proposed for future catalog years. Narvaez asked if co-teaching will be part of the proposal. Johnson responded that it hadn't been discussed, but she and others agreed that co-teaching would be part of the discussion. Ng asked about a timeline to be able to include experiential learning and Johnson responded that Conley felt it could be done quickly, depending on the depth of integration. Squier asked that exemptions be considered (ex.:

completed requirement outside of UMN Morris). Johnson assured that would be considered. They will include IS 1101/1102 leaders in their next meeting.

Narvaez spoke about the group focussing on Themes. Ferrian had raised the concern about having FYE experience also be tied to our mission themes. The subcommittee talked a lot about how to double list courses and how it would impact student choices. Narvaez spoke about the concern of adding to the number of credits required if students are required to meet all themes. Students would not have to choose which tag they want. Dean commented about combining categories as well as themes. Humanities is still expressing concern about losing enrollment with changes. Franco commented that the subcommittee is trying to keep the number of credits consistent with current requirements. There is much concern that restructuring the themes is superficial. The constraints of keeping the changes smaller right now are a true challenge. The structure needs to work for students who don't have access to credits prior to admission. Muller shared that many students get above 120 credits. The consensus is that the general education structure should not add more credit requirements. There is concern about how small changes can be made without taking the big picture into consideration. Burke asked if global village instructors can be approached to glean additional labels for current courses. Muller is working on mapping existing gen ed courses to a double-dipping approach. He is considering Perspective and Global Village courses to see how they would fit into the proposed Morris Themes. McPhee shared that he and Dean had done similar work maybe two years ago. It should be available, but will be shared with Muller. Faculty have not ever been required to have a course fit into a gen ed. Page brought up that if the 60 credit requirement stays, then it alleviates some of the pressure to have multiple tags on courses.

Ng asked subcommittees to continue their work.