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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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2-24-2022

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## **UMN Morris Curriculum Committee**

February 24, 2022, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #10

Zoom

Members Present: Peh Ng (Chair), Stacey Aronson, Barbara Burke, Rebecca Dean, Jennifer Deane, Stephanie Ferrian, Simón Franco, Rachel Johnson, Nic McPhee, Marcus Muller, Michelle Page

Members Absent: Jade Allard, John Barber, Kiel Harell, Vanessa Mora, Ben Narvaez (on leave)

Others present: Priyanka Basu, Julia Dabbs, Jimmy Schryver, Emily Bruce, Stephen Carey, Robyn VanEps

### **In these minutes: Art History Academic Program Review, German Studies Academic Program Review**

#### #1 Welcome and announcements

With the help of co-chairs, Ng requested faculty nominations for the Writing Board. Three were received for next year. One of the Humanities faculty may be on leave for a semester and Ng asked Aronson to step in during that time. Still looking for Social Science and Science and Math representation.

The Writing Enriched requirement went into effect for this current academic year. There are 13 writing enriched courses and Ng projects there will be 4-5 W courses this fall and 3-4 in spring 2023.

#### #2 Minutes from February 10, 2022

Zoom poll to approve minutes from Meeting #8 - February 10, 2022. Motion made by McPhee, seconded by Deane. Minutes approved (8-0-0).

#### #3 Course approval

New course proposed from music which has been granted a W designation. Motion from Humanities, seconded by Page. Motion approved (9-0-0).

#### #4 Academic Program Review

##### Art History

Welcome to Art History. Ng reminded the committee of their role in Academic Program Review. Schryver began by talking about strengths. They offer a robust curriculum for a school our size. Students typically become interested in the major or minor after taking courses. The primary goal of maintaining the program will be to replace a faculty member retiring in two years. It will be critical to keep the breadth of courses needed for the major. Also looking to make improvements to capstone experience. Looking at expanding curriculum to fill holes that have been identified by looking at peer organizations. Challenges are in enrollment. They have seen students choosing a 2-credit FA course to satisfy their requirement instead of an ArtH course which may have gotten them hooked. They have strong alumni placement. They are proud of the breadth of courses they offer and proud of student research.

Dean commented that ArtH has always done excellent assessment. She asked if the discipline has considered offering 2-credit courses to respond to the earlier comment. Schryver responded that 2-credit courses create issues with workload. Dean shared that Anthropology did add 2-credit courses to

appeal to those students. Page suggested that a 4-credit course could be considered for splitting into two 2-credit courses. McPhee commented that Computer Science has considered splitting introduction courses to get students interested and hope they will continue if interested. He asked what the issues were with Studio Art. Schryver replied that Studio Art previously required Art History classes for their major, but changed that. Those students often pursued a minor or even a major after taking those courses. Burke asked if ArtH can contribute to the Writing Enriched requirement. Basu offered that she feels she could offer W courses, but sees them as a fit with 3000-level courses. McPhee asked about collaborations across campus. Basu responded that they do some collaborations but could formalize them. Dabbs said some conversation has been initiated to start thinking about tracks they could provide. Dean talked about students who are interested in archaeology who are interested in classical stuff. She suggested that the division could collaborate on courses that cross disciplines. Dean asked if the program has considered a plan if they don't replace the retirement. Schryver feels the gap created by the retirement would devastate the program. Dabbs commented that if someone can be hired to split the workload with another discipline, that could be an option.

Thanks to the Art History program.

### German Studies

Carey gave a summary of the program review. When he started, there was a lot of work to do to bring back the language into the major. Language studies are important. German Studies is not just about the Latin roots, but an important part of it. There is a wide range of courses. Carey commented that the current workload is not sustainable. Students in German Studies have succeeded in many areas. Program is lacking Turkish German culture. A German Honors society has been started. There has been great success with the Potsdam exchange. American Sign Language has replaced German as the third most studied language. Staffing is a challenge with only one German faculty. The third and fourth semesters of German currently count toward the major. Carey reviewed the PSLO tracking. Mastery is only attained in an independent study course. In planning for the future, discussion centered around turning it into a minor, consider a world language discipline, or cut German Studies and create a certificate program.

McPhee commented on the lack of sustainability in the program and asked what is feasible. Carey responded that the program group is going to meet again soon about the options of where to go with the program. Bruce added her interest in a World Language program where the administrative burden is spread out. Carey is familiar with certificate programs at other institutions. McPhee asked what the value to students is for a certificate program. Muller said that UMTC offers many certificate programs and students pursue them there. Aronson shared that French does offer one in Morris. Certificates can be obtained by non-degree seeking students. Dean also commented on the sustainability of the program and asked if there are enough shared courses to make a World Language program that would reduce workload. Carey said there are and shared an example of a course with Sarah Buchanan in the past. Ng encouraged further conversations and reminded the program of the request for followup in two years.

Thanks to the German Studies program.