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Curriculum Committee Minutes

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2-2-2023

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Recommended Citation

Curriculum Committee, "Curriculum minutes 02/02/2023" (2023). *Curriculum Committee Minutes*. 417. <https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/curriculum/417>

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UMN Morris Curriculum Committee

February 2, 2023, 11:40 a.m. Meeting #9

Zoom

Members Present: Peh Ng (Chair), Stacey Aronson, Merc Chasman, Brad Deane, Jennifer Deane, Wes Flinn, Simón Franco, Rachel Johnson, Allie Jutton, Kerry Michael, Marcus Muller, Ben Narvaez, Michelle Page

Members Absent: Kianna Big Crow, Stephanie Ferrian, Maya Shebala, Bonita Young

Others present: Thomas Genova, Jeri Squier, Robyn VanEps

In these minutes:

#1 Welcome and announcements

Campus Assembly doesn't meet until February 21. Items passed last meeting will be presented, along with changes to writing enriched courses and IC courses if approved today.

#2 Minutes from January 26, 2023

Zoom poll to approve minutes from Meeting #8 - January 26, 2023. Motion made by Franco, seconded by Page. Minutes were approved (10-0-0).

#3 Proposed IC Course

Course is proposed by a new faculty member. Proposal from Education to approve ED 1805, seconded by Johnson. Chasman asked about "IC IC" and Squier responded that it is a system issue that it appears that way. Motion approved (10-0-0).

#4 Program Reviews

Ng reviewed the role of the Curriculum Committee in the Academic Program Review Process.

Spanish

Tom Genova joined to discuss the program review for Spanish. Flinn stated that Spanish is doing well with assessment and evaluating learning outcomes. They have backed up findings with data. Genova shared that one of the future plans for Spanish is to have Windy Roberts create a course for future healthcare professionals. Narvaez commented that in the report it is clear how the major fits into the mission and shows how Spanish fits into the liberal arts. He asked about connections to biology and ways to expand into study abroad options. Genova responded that they do have many connections where students could take science courses abroad. Students have done service learning internships. Something formalized for STEM students could be a benefit to the program. B. Deane congratulated Spanish on the examples of civic engagement. He asked about reaching out to latino/latina communities. Genova responded that the five year plan includes creating a course for heritage speakers. Adam Coon is working on this course. Much more planning is needed to move this forward. It would be the first of its kind in the University of Minnesota system. Professional development money may be requested to train faculty.

Latin American Area Studies

Narvaez and Genova are present to answer questions. Flinn shared that assessment and mapping to PSLOs is good from LAAS. LAAS is multidisciplinary and calls on faculty from other disciplines. Ng asked about ways to attract students to the major. Hist 1601 is an intro required course, but it mostly is history majors or people seeking general education credit. LAAS has discussed opening LAAS 3100 (Contemporary Latin America) to non-majors and increasing it to two credits to allow for gen-ed credit, but that the credit change would make the recurring nature of the course difficult. They discussed IC courses that are LAAS-specific as a way of raising awareness of the program, attracting majors, and contributing to IC. Concerns about capstone projects were brought up at the meeting with the division chairs. LAAS has discussed revisiting how capstones are handled. LAAS does allow the capstone to be done in another major, but requiring it in another major would be problematic. Narvaez shared that he sees the majority of majors choosing to do their capstone in LAAS. The numbers of majors have been consistent, but small. The pandemic definitely impacted numbers, as have a number of faculty leaves in recent years.

Ng shared that she did question the community hour schedule this semester. Steering had anticipated other activities during community hour on select Thursdays and so provided CC with alternative dates in order to provide six meetings.

Meeting adjourned.