

Approved September 11, 2012

College of Arts and Sciences  
COMMITTEE ON THE CURRICULUM

Meeting Minutes  
April 25, 2012

Present: Katja Altpeter-Jones, David Champion, Judy Finch, Deborah Heath, Jane Hunter, Tuajuanda Jordan, Iva Stavrov, Yueping Zhang, Jahnavi Caldwell-Green, Branden Pursinger, Tamara Ko, recorder.

Absent: Jeff Feld-Gore

Chair Raillard convened the meeting at 3:17pm.

The minutes from April 18, 2012 were approved.

The room was abuzz with laughter and chatter as members celebrated the last Committee meeting of the year. The productive but sometimes grueling semester is finally coming to an end, and summer will soon be around the corner.

**I. Course Proposal Subcommittee**

*BIO 114 The Origin of Life in the Universe*

*CHEM 114 The Origin of Life in the Universe*

*GEOL 114 The Origin of Life in the Universe*

*PHYS 114 The Origin of Life in the Universe*

These proposals are for the same interdisciplinary course and allow each individual department to list the course under its own section.

These proposals were unanimously approved as a package.

***Biology Department***

*BIO 499 Independent Study*

This course may be repeated again for credit with a letter grade option only.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

***Education Program***

*ED 446 Inquiry into Teaching and Learning*

This course has added an additional prerequisite option and changed the semester offering.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

***Environmental Studies Program***

*ENVS 220 Environmental Analysis*

This is a housekeeping change to reflect the fact that the course has always fulfilled a general education, Category B requirement.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

*ENVS 460 Topics in Environmental Law and Policy*

This proposal changes the teaching instructor to a law faculty member.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

*ENVS 499T Thesis Preparation*

This course proposal had no changes, so did not need a vote.

***Geology Program***

*GEOL 150 Environmental Geology*

*GEOL 240 Spatial Problems in Geology*

*GEOL 280 The Fundamentals of Hydrology*

These course proposals are housekeeping changes and allow them to be applicable towards the general education, Category A requirement.

These proposals were unanimously approved as a package.

***Rhetoric & Media Studies Department***

*RHMS 275 Interpersonal Rhetoric*

This proposal adds sophomore standing required and changes the semester offering.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

***Math 055/CS 102 Update***

Registrar Finch reminded the Committee that although CS 102L has been approved to be deactivated, a formal proposal has not yet been submitted to her office. Professor Stavrov will complete the proposal.

**II. Changes in International Affairs Major Requirement**

The general consensus of the Committee did not see any objection to the proposed changes to the international affairs major, which add some more courses in the history and sociology/anthropology departments as options. A minor note was made that removing the prerequisite for IA 242 would require a course proposal though, which Chair Raillard will inform Department Chair Bob Mandel. Another issue is that the Registrar's Office cannot regulate the number of courses a student can take outside of the department in order to fulfill the major and so the department will need to track this and inform the Registrar's Office.

The changes to the international affairs major were unanimously approved.

### **III. Department Major/Minor Changes**

Departments are proposing mostly small changes to their majors/minors, and Registrar Finch does not see any problems with the majority of them. Chair Raillard noticed that economics department is now requiring a minimum grade of an A for their honors now though, which seems like a rather high standard. Is this common practice for departments? Registrar Finch responded that most departments adhere to a general GPA minimum, some specifically require a certain grade in order to qualify for department honors. She also pointed out that these are typically awarded before the semester is over. If some departments now require a certain letter grade for honors, then they will not be able to follow the previous timeframe.

Registrar Finch also noted that the biology/chemistry program would like to add BIO 408 as an additional course option to fulfill the major. However, the Committee has yet to review its recently submitted course changes.

#### *BIO 408 Phylogenetic Biology and Molecular Evolution*

This proposal changes the course title to more closely reflect the content.

This course proposal was unanimously approved.

The changes to the department majors/minors were unanimously approved.

### **IV. ISCC Report**

Professor Campion briefed the Committee on the ISCC's work this year, having selected 11 programs leaders out to the year 2015 and updated the student evaluation. The biggest agenda item for next year is to build on library support for overseas programs (Lewis & Clark Around the World). Faculty Outreach Librarian Kelley pointed out that the level of research for students on overseas programs has been low because the library is not able to support the work abroad. Although there has been overlap with distance education, there is presently no collection development budget for buying books. Librarian Kelley informed the Committee that library

support is now being increased with the purchase of more e-books, building connections with instructors, and meeting with students before they leave for their programs.

## **V. Other Business**

### ***General Education Implementation***

Professor Heath informed the Committee that she and Professor Zhang met with Professor Janet Davidson, producing a memo documenting discussions and first thoughts on the general education implementation. She encourages the other two divisions/affinity groups to create a similar document towards bridging discussions.

### ***Classics Major Proposal***

Dean Jordan explained to the Committee that there is currently not enough data in the major proposal to decide whether or not it would be resource-neutral as that would be dependent on when classes are offered and student demand. She will need to meet with Professors Rob Kugler and Nick Smith, and the proposal will need to be resubmitted to the Committee next year. Dean Jordan added that the proposal had requested to change the title of the current minor to Classics Minor but the Committee had not been able to review this specific section yet.

Congratulatory words were given to Chair Raillard for his work this semester.

The meeting was convened at 4:01pm.