MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2017, MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Location: Gardiner Hall 230
Present: Matt Church, Christine Ehrick, Paul Himes, Dwain Pruitt, Regina Roebuck, Edna Ross
Guest: Dean Kimberly Kempf-Leonard

The meeting was convened at 8:59 AM.

Dean Kimberly Kempf-Leonard welcomed the committee and delivered its charge. The dean discussed the Cardinal Core task force’s explicit goal of “changing the culture of general education” at the University, not simply repackaging the current general education program. The task force’s desire was that, while general education courses would be submitted based on disciplinary content, all general education courses would work to integrate elements from a number of areas so that they might truly be foundational for future course work. This would guarantee that all general education courses under Cardinal Core would reinforce skills more explicitly developed in other content areas. This led to a discussion of what information had been communicated to faculty and how the committee reviewed general education proposals during Spring 2017. The committee focused its review efforts on whether syllabi complied with articulated SLOs and did not evaluate course content’s embrace of the Cardinal Core philosophy. In fact, members of the committee generally indicated that they were unfamiliar with the task force’s expectation. Dean Leonard planned to follow up with the General Education Course Committee about communication and expectations. As for the Curriculum Committee, it will review general education course submissions with the dean’s charge in mind.

Dr. Regina Roebuck was introduced as a new committee member. She will serve as the committee’s chair. Dr. Edna Ross will serve as the Curriculum Committee’s representative to the GECC.

Dr. Pruitt noted that the committee needs replacements for Dr. William Cunningham, who retired over the summer, and Dr. Changbing Hu, for whom no replacement was found during the spring elections. Committee members recommended potential candidates and Dr. Pruitt agreed to contact them.

The committee will meet on the following dates in 230 Gardiner Hall from 2:00-3:15 PM:

- September 1
- September 15
- October 6
- October 20
- November 3

The committee’s final Fall 2017 meeting date will be Reading Day, December 5, either from 9:30-12:00 PM or from 1:00 PM-3:30 PM based on committee members’ availability. This meeting will be held in 230 Gardiner as well.

Dr. Pruitt briefly reviewed items that the committee will be working on in the fall semester, most significantly the ongoing approval of courses for Cardinal Core and review of departmental curricula as departments decide what to do with the three credit hours freed up by the general education revision. All Cardinal Core proposals will be due to the Curriculum Committee by October 13 to allow them to be reviewed and forwarded to the GECC by its November 1, 2017, deadline. The committee will also be reviewing a proposal to add questions about community-based learning courses to evaluations in all such
courses to make a recommendation to the Faculty Assembly. The committee will consider this proposal at its September 1, 2017, meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwain C. Pruitt, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Governance
Prepared August 17, 2017

REVISED: August 23, 2017
College of Arts and Sciences  
Curriculum Committee  
August 17, 2017  
9:00-9:25 AM  
Gardiner Hall 230

AGENDA

- Welcome and Committee Charge from Dean Leonard
- Introduction of New Committee Member
- Retirement of Dr. William Cunningham and committee vacancies
- Election of Committee Chairperson
- Election of General Education Course Committee representative
- Proposed Fall Meeting Schedule and Locations (all times 2:00-3:15 PM unless noted otherwise)
  - September 1
  - September 15
  - October 6
  - October 20
  - November 3
  - November 17
  - December 5 (9:30 AM to 12:00 PM or 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM)
- Items before the Committee Consideration during Fall 2017
  - Continuing general education course proposal review
  - Curricular updates from all degree programs
  - Request from Offices of Community Engagement and Institutional Effectiveness concerning CBL courses