

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2014, MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Location: Gardiner Hall 340

Present: Simona Bertacco, Matt Church, Humberto Rodriguez Gutierrez, Changbing Hu, Dwain Pruitt, Christopher Tillquist, Haifeng Zhang

Absent: Wendy Yoder

Guests: Alan Leidner and Timothy Owens (Classical and Modern Languages); Mark Running, Susan Remold, Joe Steffan, Perri Eason (Biology); Al Futrell and Stuart Esrock (Communication); Mark Noble and Christy Rich (Chemistry); Russell Vandenbroucke (Peace, Justice and Conflict Transformation); and Nancy Theriot (Women and Gender Studies)

The meeting was convened at 12:30 PM.

The minutes of the October 10, 2014, meeting were approved via e-mail vote and were forwarded to be posted on the College's web site. The minutes of the October 24, 2014, meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

40-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of AST 491.

42-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of AST 501.

48-14F, 49-14F and 50-14F: Dr. Leidner and Professor Owens explained to the committee the origins of ASLIS' proposal to create accelerated ASL courses (ASL 205 and 305) and to change the ASLIS program's admissions requirements. The B.S. program is intended to prepare students to serve as interpreters, which means that they must be prepared to pass the licensing examination. The proposed new accelerated courses would serve as a gateway into the major, allowing students to see if they will be successful far earlier. When asked about the proposed new minimum GPA requirement, Professor Owens indicated that the program will implement additional support structures to assist students accepted into the major. The committee **APPROVED** 48-14F and 49-14F and **APPROVED** the proposed changes to ASLIS' admissions requirements (50-14F).

58-14F: Dr. Mark Running offered additional insights into BIOL 348, who takes the course and when. Dr. Running explained that the majority of students in BIOL 348 are seniors despite the course's 300-level designation. Dr. Fell explained in correspondence sent to Dr. Pruitt that the course was renumbered when the department was asked to increase the number of its 300-level offerings. When asked if he would object to the course being renumbered to be a 400-level course, Dr. Running said that he would not. The committee **APPROVED** BIOL 348 as a CUE course pending its renumbering as a 400-level course.

61-14F: Dr. Susan Remold and Dr. Joe Steffan discussed BIOL 409's pedagogy and SLOs, arguing for its appropriateness as a culminating undergraduate experience. The committee **APPROVED** BIOL 409 as a CUE course.

62-14F: Dr. Steffan presented a revised syllabus for BIOL 415 at the meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued about the course's pedagogy and how student expectations in 415 are different from expectations in other upper-division courses. Dr. Steffan explained that BIOL 415 requires students to act like biologists, not simply as students. The course requires more creative synthesis and critical engagement. It also requires a degree of one-on-one engagement with the professor that is uncommon. The committee **APPROVED** BIOL 415 as a CUE course.

The Department of Biology agreed to editorial revisions to its original CIFs to remove formal cross-listings between 500- and 600-level courses. With those revisions made, the committee **APPROVED** 67-14F, 68-14F, 69-14F, 70-14F, 71-14F and 72-14F.

73-14F: Dr. Perri Eason submitted a revised syllabus for BIOL 600. Upon receipt of the revised syllabus, the committee **APPROVED** 73-14F.

22-14F: Dr. Russell Vandenbroucke requested that the Curriculum Committee reconsider its earlier decision (October 3, 2014) that PJCT did not need to add ART 590 and COMM 301 as approved PJCT electives. The committee reasoned that the existing catalog language allows the program's director to designate departmental special topics classes as approved PJCT electives. It felt that adding specific special topics courses might result in a situation in which a student might argue that the course should apply for PJCT elective credit even when its topic was not appropriate. Dr. Vandenbroucke noted, however, that previous committees had approved specific special topics courses for inclusion and that he wanted there to be consistency. The committee therefore **APPROVED** 22-14F, designating ART 590 and COMM 301 as approved PJCT electives.

NEW BUSINESS:

76-14F: The committee **APPROVED** adding CJ/JA 440 to the list of approved PJCT electives.

77-14F: The committee **APPROVED** adding SPAD 571 to the list of approved PJCT electives.

78-14F: The committee **APPROVED** adding the following ENGL courses to the list of approved PJCT electives: ENGL 342, 368, 369, 373, 374, 375, 423, 549, 550, 554, 567, 575 and 577.

79-14F: Drs. Stuart Esrock and Al Futrell presented Communication's proposed change to its minor. The department wishes to guarantee that all minors take a social science methods course. The proposed revision would require students take COMM 316 or another social science methods course (reducing the number of elective hours in the minor from 12 to 9) and would give students the option of taking COMM 303, 304, 305 or COMM 315 instead of requiring them to take COMM 305 as the minor does now. The committee **APPROVED** the proposed changes to the Communication minor.

80-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 321 pending the submission of a revised syllabus featuring a course grading scale.

81-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 322.

82-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 336 pending the submission of a revised syllabus including a course grading scale.

83-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 434.

83A-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 402 and **APPROVED** it as a CUE course. The department was asked to change its title to "Independent Research in Communication," which Dr. Futrell agreed to do.

84-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the proposed title and description changes for COMM 427. It was also **APPROVED** as a CUE course.

85-14F, 86-14F and 87-14F: Communication proposed to offer “Special Topics in Communication Service Learning” as COMM 365, COMM 465 (which would be a CUE course) and COMM 565 (which would also be a CUE course). These service learning courses would not meet at the same time. The committee questioned how the requirements would differ for each and asked that the department submit an individual syllabus for each that clarifies each course’s unique expectations. The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 365, 465 and 565 pending receipt of the revised syllabi.

87A-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 481 and **APPROVED** it as a CUE course.

87B-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the addition of COMM 498 and **APPROVED** it as a CUE course.

88-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences’ proposed description and prerequisite changes for PSYC 422.

89-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the course description change for PSYC 301.

90-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the proposed course description change for PSYC 363.

91-14F: The committee **APPROVED** the proposed course description change for ENGL 551.

92-14F: Dr. Mark Noble and Dr. Christine Rich presented a proposal from the Department of Chemistry to change CHEM 201’s prerequisites. According to their presentation, close to 300 students received F or W grades in CHEM 201, which necessitates strategic intervention. The current prerequisites are “[a]n ACT score of 25 or higher in mathematics or completion of MATH 111 or EAC 100; completion of one year of high school Chemistry is also recommended.” The proposed prerequisites would be:

- 1) For students with 15 or fewer credit hours earned at UofL or another university: a math ACT score of 26 (SAT Math of 600) or higher OR an ACT composite of 27 (SAT 1220) or higher OR
- 2) For students with 12 or more credit hours earned at UofL or another university: an overall GPA equivalent to a C+ (2.30) or higher AND EITHER a minimum grade of C (not C-) in Math 180 or higher OR a minimum grade of C (not C-) in CHEM 101.

Drs. Noble and Rich acknowledge that this proposed change could delay some students’ progression, but countered that those who fail are equally delayed and potentially permanently derailed in their pursuit of a STEM major. When asked if the department would be able to accommodate increased demand for seats in CHEM 101 if students were not able to go into CHEM 201 immediately, Dr. Noble noted that there tend to be open spaces in CHEM 101. The committee **APPROVED** the recommended change. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Course Committee for its review and decision.

93-14F: Dr. Nancy Theriot attended the meeting to address WGST’s proposed changes to its major. WGST is currently the only department that requires its majors pursue a minor as part of its supporting courses. The proposed change would allow WGST majors to pursue areas of focus (humanities, natural science or social science) instead of pursuing a minor. The committee **APPROVED** the proposed change.

94-14F: The committee deferred discussion of the proposed Louis D. Brandeis Center for Global Jewish Heritage until its November 21, 2014, meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwain C. Pruitt, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Governance
Prepared November 14, 2014

College of Arts and Sciences
Curriculum Committee
November 7, 2014
12:30-2:00 PM
Gardiner Hall 340

AGENDA

- 1) Approval of Minutes of October 24, 2014, Meeting (forwarded electronically)
- 2) Old Business
 - 40-14F: AST 491–Proposed New Course (requested syllabus submitted)
 - 42-14F: AST 501–Proposed New Course (department clarified that it wishes both graduate and undergraduate credit options; syllabus previously submitted)
 - 48-14F: Proposed New ASL 205 Course
 - 49-14F: Proposed New ASL 305 Course
 - 50-14F: Proposed Changes to ASLIS Program Admissions Requirements
 - 58-14F: Proposed Biology CUE Course–BIOL 348
 - 61-14F: Proposed Biology CUE Course–BIOL 409
 - 62-14F: Proposed Biology CUE Course–BIOL 415
 - 67-14F: Course Description Change for BIOL 560
 - 68-14F: Course Description Change for BIOL 660
 - 69-14F: Prerequisite Change for BIOL 667
 - 70-14F: Prerequisite Change for BIOL 567
 - 71-14F: Sustainability Course Attribute for BIOL 563 (clarification about cross-listing)
 - 72-14F: Sustainability Course Attribute for BIOL 663 (clarification about cross-listing)
 - 73-14F: Proposed New Course–BIOL 600
 - 22-14F: Proposed Special Topics Electives in PJCT Certificate Program
- 3) New Business (attached)
 - 76-14F: Proposal to Add CJ/JA 440 to Electives in PJCT Certificate Program
 - 77-14F: Proposal to Add SPAD 571 to Electives in PJCT Certificate Program
 - 78-14F: Proposal to Add English Electives to PJCT Certificate Program
 - 79-14F: Proposed Changes to Communication Minor
 - 80-14F: Proposed New COMM 321 Course
 - 81-14F: Proposed New COMM 322 Course
 - 82-14F: Proposed New COMM 336 Course
 - 83-14F: Proposed New COMM 434 Course
 - 83A-14F: Proposed New COMM 402 Course (CUE)

- 84-14F: Proposed COMM CUE Course—COMM 427 (title change, description change, CUE designation)
- 85-14F: Proposed New COMM Course—COMM 365
- 86-14F: Proposed New COMM Course—COMM 465 (CUE)
- 87-14F: Proposed New COMM Course—COMM 565 (CUE)
- 87A-14F: Proposed New COMM Course—COMM 481 (CUE)
- 87B-14F: Proposed New COMM Course—COMM 498 (CUE)
- 88-14F: Proposed Change to Description and Prerequisites for PSYC 422
- 89-14F: Proposed Change to Prerequisites for PSYC 301
- 90-14F: Proposed Course Description Change for PSYC 363
- 91-14F: Proposed Course Description Change for ENGL 551
- 92-14F: Proposed Prerequisite Change for CHEM 201
- 93-14F: Proposed Changes to the WGST Major
- 94-14F: Proposal for Establishment of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Global Jewish Heritage