

## MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2017, MEETING OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

**Location:** Gardiner Hall 104

**Present:** Simona Bertacco, Matt Church, William Cunningham, Christine Ehrick, Paul Himes, Changbing Hu, Dwain Pruitt, Edna Ross

**Guests:** Paul DeMarco, Bill Guido, David Simpson

The meeting was convened at 2:00 PM.

The committee approved the minutes of the February 10, 2017 meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**02-17S:** The committee reviewed and **APPROVED** a proposed syllabus for SUST 101.

**03-17S:** The committee **APPROVED** SUST 201, “Environmental Management,” after receipt of a course syllabus

**04-17S:** The committee **APPROVED** SUST 202, “Behavioral Dimensions of Environmental Decision Making,” after reviewing its syllabus.

**05-17S:** The committee **APPROVED** SUST 301, “Sustainable Built Environment” after reviewing its syllabus.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**12-17S:** The Curriculum Committee **APPROVED** the creation of a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience as presented by Dr. Paul DeMarco and Dr. Bill Guido. The degree would be offered as a partnership between the Department of Anatomical Sciences and Neurobiology and the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. Quoting from the proposal:

“The proposed Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (BS in Neuroscience) is an interdisciplinary degree with a STEM-Health focus. Graduates of the program will be trained to critically assess and analyze ideas and concepts from the diverse disciplines that contribute to the field of neuroscience. Ultimately providing our graduates the skills and training necessary to understand the relationship between the nervous system, our behavior and our health. Students will achieve an in-depth understanding of nervous system function, from the molecular level to the cognitive sciences, and become familiar with the techniques used to measure nervous system function from the cellular level to the whole brain. Furthermore, students will be exposed to current and developing methods used to mitigate or restore functional loss in individuals with nervous system damage or disease. Through mentored research experiences, students will learn to critically assess the neuroscience literature and understand the methodology used to measure the structure and function of the nervous system (2).”

“As a co-directed degree overseen by faculty from two departments (Psychological and Brain Sciences, and Anatomical Sciences and Neurobiology), students will receive broad-based training in liberal arts concomitant with a specialized sequence of courses in the social sciences, natural sciences and biological sciences. As students progress to higher-division course work, the curriculum becomes more focused in the discipline of neuroscience, providing them with training in basic nerve cell function, neural networks and brain-behavior relationships, including psychiatric/psychological disorders. During

[their] coursework, students will learn statistical and experimental methodology, as well as methods specific to neuroscience research. These lessons will be further enhanced by working with a faculty mentor for at least one semester on laboratory research or in a directed readings project focused on a particular research question. Through elective courses, students will have an opportunity to concentrate their studies in areas of personal interest (5).”

“The joint administration of the program by the two participating departments establishes a new opportunity for collaboration in undergraduate education between the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Medicine. Students in this program may also take relevant elective courses from the School of Public Health, School of Engineering and School of Business. There is a strong neuroscience community at the University of Louisville. Currently, there are at least 43 faculty across the campus whose research is linked to the discipline of neuroscience. Including faculty with appointments in the College of Arts and Science[s], the College of Education and Human Development, the School of Medicine and the Speed School of Engineering. Faculty labs will provide experiential learning environments for students, which are augmented by faculty affiliations with the following centers and institutes: Center for Environmental Genomics and Integrative Biology, Center for Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Depression Center, Gheens Center for Research on Aging and Age-Related Diseases, Institute for Sustainable Health & Optimal Aging, Kentucky Lions Eye Center, Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center and the Neurosurgical Institute of Kentucky. This community provides a rich and diverse training ground for students who major in neuroscience and is a testament to the interdisciplinary nature of the field (5-6).”

**13-17S:** The committee **APPROVED** the Department of Comparative Humanities’ request to change LING 620’s title, description, and prerequisites to create a special topics option in the Linguistics track in the department’s MA. The course’s new title will be “Special Topics in Linguistics.” Its new prerequisites will be ENGL/LING 325 or ENGL/LING 518. Its new description will be “Intensive investigation of selected topics in current linguistic theory or practice.”

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwain C. Pruitt, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Governance  
Prepared March 15, 2017

College of Arts and Sciences  
Curriculum Committee  
March 10, 2017  
104 Gardiner

**AGENDA**

- 1) Approval of Minutes of February 10, 2017, Meeting
- 2) Old Business:
  - 02-17S: Addition of SUST 101, “Introduction to Sustainability”
  - 03-17S: Addition of SUST 201, “Environmental Management”
  - 04-17S: Addition of SUST 202, “Behavioral Dimensions of Environmental Decision Making”
  - 05-17S: Addition of SUST 301, “Sustainable Built Environment”
- 3) New Business (available on the Curriculum Committee’s Sharepoint site)
  - 012-17S: Creation of the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience
  - 013-17S: Change to LING 620 (title, description, prerequisite)