Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Minutes
December 3, 2013
1:10-2:00 pm, Room 107, Lab of Mechanics

Present: Jan Thompson (chair), Cameron Campbell (Design), Bill Dilla (Business), Suzanne Hendrich (Human Sciences), Judy Strand (Graduate College), Rob Wallace (Liberal Arts & Sciences), Curt Youngs (Agriculture & Life Sciences), Char Hulsebus (Registrar’s Office), Diane Rupp (Registrar’s Office), Jared Danielson (Veterinary Medicine)

Absent: D. Jacobson (Engineering), E. Ward (GSB), D. Holger (SVPP)

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. The original agenda was revised to delete unfinished business agenda item 5 (proposal for name change of Genetics interdepartmental program). Wallace moved and Danielson seconded motion to approve minutes of the November 12, 2013 FSCC meeting with two minor revisions. Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:
Thompson reported that all college curriculum reports were forwarded to the Faculty Senate (FS) Academic Affairs Council (AAC) who reviewed/approved them and forwarded them to the FS executive committee. Hendrich asked about how each college reviews/approved their college reports, and this was briefly discussed.

Thompson reminded FSCC members to send to Sherri Angstrom the end date for their current appointment to the FSCC.

Thompson reported that items concerning academic standards issues pertaining to GPA are still in progress. More updates at next meeting.

The form to record vote counts/dates of approval/approving body that are needed for approval of curriculum requests was referred to the registrar’s office (Hulsebus) for creation of a “fillable” pdf document. Both a .doc and .pdf version should be made available to requestors on the FSCC curriculum portal web site.

New Business:
Wallace presented a proposal for a new undergraduate minor in Teaching English as a Second Language. This minor is needed because interested students presently are required to take graduate-level theoretical and pedagogical courses – something not very practical for most undergraduates and which has the potential to cause a “dilution” of rigor of material taught to graduate students. The courses in the proposed minor will focus on training students how to perform “in the trenches” (i.e., application courses). It is expected that 50-60 primary and secondary education major students will participate in the first year. Dilla asked for clarification on how it is possible to implement 4 new “X” courses without requesting any new resources. Wallace indicated that the instructors of the existing graduate-level courses have agreed to teach the new undergraduate “X” courses. Wallace pointed out letters of support from John Levis (Linguistics chair), Hina Patel (teacher education services), and Barbara Ching (English chair).

Questions were raised concerning the lack of “X” course forms, documentation of consultations with other potentially affected curricula, and whether or not the School Of Education is on board (Hina Patel is no longer at ISU). Wallace indicated the proposal had been reviewed and approved by the LAS Assembly. Hendrich commented that the Teacher Education program is separate and that the certificate requires more credits than the proposed minor. Dilla moved and Wallace seconded approval of the undergraduate minor in Teaching English as a Second Language. Motion carried on a vote of 7 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.
Hulsebus reported that the new on-line experimental course announcement is nearly ready for use. LeepFrog is importing existing experimental courses into the system to more easily allow: 1) re-circulation of “X” courses, and 2) movement of “X” courses into the catalog (when appropriate). Once the importation of existing “X” courses is complete, the form will go live and be released to the ISU community.

Wallace led discussion concerning the purpose of and possible modifications to the annual college curriculum reports. What do other institutions, especially Iowa Regents’ institutions, do for curriculum reports? Regents’ approval is already required or new majors, certificate, name changes, discontinuation, etc. Why is it necessary to report this information again? They have the ability to track what they approve – we shouldn’t have to do that for them. Does anyone at ISU compile the individual college curriculum reports into a single cohesive document? After FS approval of the reports, they go to the Council of Provost. But what happens after that? Does anyone else ever read or use the reports? The AAC gives an annual report to FS that includes all major curriculum changes. College curriculum reports represent a HUGE investment of faculty time (and hence, of salary dollars). Thompson will ask Dave Holger for clarification on the use and need for the college curriculum reports.

Wallace led discussion of Iowa Lakeside Lab courses. Bonnie Bowen is retiring and moving to Arizona. Lee Burras (CALS) was formerly on the 3-person curriculum committee for this program. Wallace reported that the LAS Assembly voted to eliminate the cross-listing of Iowa Lakeside Lab courses in all LAS-based majors (~ 6 courses). The department designator for the Iowa Lakeside Lab courses is IALL.

Wallace led discussion concerning whether or not curricula impose limitations on the number of internship credits that may be applied toward graduation. There seems to be a wide range in the number of allowable credits that may be applied. There also seems to be wide variation in: 1) how the number of credits equate to the time commitment by the student and 2) the nature/extent of the educational component. FSCC reps were asked to gather information from curricula in their colleges and report back to Wallace.

Thompson indicated Sherri Angstrom will send out a message regarding member availability for spring semester 2014 FSCC meetings because Tuesdays at 1:10 pm is a conflict for some members during spring semester.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Curt Youngs
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences