Minutes of the May 2, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

The meeting was called to order at 1:14 pm by chairperson Jan Thompson.

Other members in attendance: Cameron Campbell (Design), Pat Carlson (Human Sciences), Jared Danielson (Vet Med), Bill Dilla (Business), Char Hulsebus (Registrar’s Office), Doug Jacobson (Engineering), Diane Rupp (Registrar’s Office), Rob Wallace (LAS), Curt Youngs (AGLS).

Guests in attendance: David Acker (CALS & AgEdS); Tom Brumm (ABE)

Brumm presented a proposal to establish a Master of Engineering graduate certificate in Energy Systems Engineering. This certification would require 12 credits consisting of two fundamental courses and 2 additional courses. The reason for the request is because engineers in industry are engaged in energy systems work.

Brumm also presented a proposal to establish a Master of Engineering in Energy Systems Engineering. Students would be required to take ME 531X Advanced Energy Systems and Analysis (3 credits) and ME 501X Energy Engineering Economics and Policy (3 credits), in addition to 3 credits of graduate level (or non-major graduate credit) math/statistics, 3 credits in professional development, 3 credits of electives, and 15 credits of elective engineering courses. The target audience for the Master of Engineering degree is industry professionals, and many of the courses will be taught on-line. The proposed Master of Engineering program will mirror other master of Engineering programs already available at ISU.

Dilla asked if ME students can enroll in MBA courses. He suspects not and suggested striking MBA courses from the list. He also pointed out that Mgmt 472 and Mgmt 583 have prerequisites that many students may not have completed. He suggested it would be extremely helpful to have letters of cooperation from all departments in which students may take courses for the Master of Engineering degree and/or graduate certificate.

Brumm suggested it may be better to consider these comments, separate the two proposals, and come back to FSCC in the fall. He also needs to register these with the Higher Education Commission. Wallace moved and Youngs seconded to table the proposals to enable the proposing department to:

a. separate the proposal for the graduate certificate from the proposal for the Master of Engineering degree
b. obtain letters of support from all participating departments
c. revise the proposals to include a chronology of events, including vote counts, at the department, college, and graduate college levels
d. clarify that ME 510 is not Econ 510

Motion to table carried by a vote of 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Acker presented the proposal to discontinue the Master of Agriculture degree program with a major in Professional Agriculture. This program was developed in 1981 as a distance education program. Meeting the needs of professionals in the state evolved from flying faculty to remote sites to preparing videos and then DVDs to development of on-line courses. However, the needs for current courses has waned as others have developed more specialized courses more in line with current industry needs. Students currently enrolled in the program will be given 5 years to complete the degree. The proposal was approved by the AgEdS faculty on a 7-0 vote, by the CALS curriculum committee on a 14-0 vote, and by CALS faculty on a 114-6 vote. Wallace moved and Carlson seconded approval of the proposal to
discontinue the Master of Agriculture degree program with a major in Professional Agriculture. Motion carried unanimously on a 7-0 vote with no abstentions.

Youngs presented on behalf of CALS the proposal to change the name of the Public Service and Administration in Agriculture major to Agriculture and Society. Jacobson moved and Danielson seconded approval of the name change. Motion carried unanimously on a vote of 7-0-0.

Dilla moved and Jacobson seconded approval of the minutes of the April 4, 2013 FSCC meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Thompson provided an update on the proposal from the Department of Finance in the College of Business to re-name their “Family Finance, Housing, and Policy” major to “Family Finance”. The proposal required adjusting the name to “Financial Planning and Counseling” but should make it through the approval process.

Thompson reported that Sherri Angstrom is working on the FSCC web site and is making substantial progress. The web site will likely be ready in the fall and will be similar to other university-level web sites (with buttons on top).

Hulsebus updated members that she has been working with programmers concerning the on-line experimental course announcement form. She hopes to have the form ready in approximately 6 weeks. She will provide updates to FSCC members via e-mail. However, she did have questions concerning course fees. Should a space for course fees be placed on the new on-line form? Should there be some type of notification to the proposer, either a pop-up window or an e-mail, to alert them that a special form is needed for course fees? Also, should similar notification be done for those proposing dual-listed courses, US diversity courses, and international perspectives courses? Should a link be placed on the on-line form? She believes a rollback button would be helpful as another means of notifying proposers that additional forms/paperwork is needed before “X” courses can be approved.

Hulsebus announced that on-line help for catalog editing is now available.

Thompson reported that Strand has been working on the flow chart tied to Faculty Handbook Table 10.8

Thompson led discussion on the language currently being used in the catalog concerning prerequisites listed by student classification (i.e., sophomore, junior) or number of credits earned (e.g., at least 9 credits in philosophy; at least 30 credits earned at ISU). This issue was raised by the early credit task force, and FSCC needs to decide if policy change is needed. It was proposed to adopt uniform language across the university for such prerequisites as follows:

a. Prereq: \textit{junior classification} (or whatever classification is deemed appropriate after course review)

b. Prereq: \textit{At least 30 credits earned within the discipline at ISU} (or whatever number of credits, earned at whatever location, is deemed appropriate after course review)

c. Prereq: \textit{specific course(s)} (whether inside or outside of the curriculum, taken either at ISU or elsewhere)
Meeting was adjourned at 2:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Curt Youngs
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences representative to the FSCC