

## University Curriculum Committee

Minutes #19

April 3, 2019

**Members Present:** Grace Allbaugh, Martha Cook, Geoffrey Duce, Susan Dustin, Richard Hughes, Amy Hurd, Broden Knauss, Erin Mikulec, Clara Munyer, Mohamed Nur-Awaleh, Kyle Papka, Patricia Pence, Joanne Savage, Jean Standard, Joe Trefzger, Li Zeng

**Members Absent:** Andrew Laudicina, Lance Lippert, James Wolf (on sabbatical)

**Guests:** Jimmy Chrismon, School of Theatre and Dance; Beth Hatt, Educational Administration and Foundations; Danielle Lindsey, Registrar's Office; Maura Toro-Morn, Latin American/Latino Latina Studies; Julie Lynd, Languages, Literatures and Cultures; Rocio Rivadeneyra, Honors Program

### 1. CONVENE:

Standard convened the meeting at 3:05 pm.

### 2. INTRODUCTIONS:

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes #17 – March 20, 2019: Cook moved to approve and Trefzger seconded. The committee approved by acclamation.

### 4. PROPOSAL ACTION:

a. **Minor in African Studies program review – Nur-Awaleh & Knauss**

A memo with the UCC's recommendations, including to consider establishing a gateway course, update the name of the University's strategic plan, and increase efforts to advertise the minor to students, will be sent to the program director.

b. **Minor in Peace & Conflict Resolution Studies program review – Cook & Papka**

A memo with the UCC's recommendations, including to consider developing an assessment plan to demonstrate impact on students' careers and to submit proposals for the curricular changes that the program review document identified, will be sent to the program director.

c. **IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access) graduation requirement:**

The committee discussed what the recommendation to the Senate might include. Standard indicated that the recommendation would include a cover letter that may include suggestions for implementation as well as the UCC's subcommittee report. Nur-Awaleh moved to approve the IDEAS graduate requirement. Mikulec seconded. The committee voted with 12 in favor and 3 opposed. No abstentions.

### 5. PROPOSAL DISCUSSION:

a. **Minor in Latin American Latino/Latina Studies program review – Hughes & Munyer**

Hughes summarized the review and noted that it was well done and the program is strong. It was noted that the minor's enrollment makes it the second largest minor in the University. The program does receive some funding from the College of Arts and Sciences and has strong support from the associated faculty. The goal of the program is to develop a major in addition to the minor.

b. **THD – Theatre Teacher Education sequence (Revision) – Trefzger & Mikulec**

The proposal requests revisions to the major including deleting THE 101 and TCH 212; changes to the THE 185 and 285 courses (increases the hours), and replacing SED 344 for the EAF 228, 231, or 235 requirement. All of the reviewers' questions related to how the clinical hours will be satisfied were addressed.

Hatt referenced the letter of objection from the Educational Administration and Foundations (EAF)

department to the replacement of the EAF course with the SED 344 course. The EAF department requests that the proposal be sent back to the department and for more dialog to occur.

Mikulec summarized the process the proposal went through after the college committee approved it including the CTE curriculum sub-committee and the entire CTE. Standard suggested that the proposal has followed the process. Hatt reemphasized that the process has diminished the dialog needed on a decision that may have such a large economic impact on EAF. EAF only has one representative on CTE and no representative on the curriculum sub-committee. Hughes said that SED 344 was a course created because the secondary programs asked to have it to fill a void. When asked why Theatre did this, Chrismon answered that Theatre covers this content in other courses and the EAF content was duplicated. Hatt stated this was not the case, and that there were important elements taught in the EAF courses that could not be duplicated in the other courses.

Nur-Awaleh noted the importance of cultural competency in Social foundation courses for future teachers by mentioning a Government Accounting Office (GAO) study:  
<https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-18-258>.

Standard reiterated that the expertise lies with the department's faculty. The faculty know what their students need. Hughes added that not only does the curriculum lie with the department, but so does accountability for the quality of the students' preparation. The university will not allow programs to keep adding hours, so some teacher education programs have to make tough decisions.

## 6. LIAISON REPORTS:

- a. **Council on General Education** – Standard  
CGE did not meet.
- b. **Council for Teacher Education** – Mikulec  
CTE met yesterday and approved five more teacher ed. programs that are changing their requirements.
- c. **Academic Affairs Committee** – Trefzger  
Possible revisions to the student leave of absence policy were discussed. ISU allows students to take up to six semesters off without reapplying, but under federal law, they may have to start paying back student loans after 180 days, and can also lose scholarships.

The non-traditional constituents policy was discussed. The issue involves parties like attendees at conferences held on campus who get "guest" access to the campus computer system. The process was cumbersome at one time but now the technical staff have simplified things, so it might be possible to get this policy off the books.

The Reinstatement Committee's annual report was again discussed. Information on the diversity characteristics of counselors at the student counseling center was provided by Katy Killian, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs. Chairperson Pancrazio asked what steps AAC should be taking at this point. After being on campus for a long time faculty can lose sight of the transition "shock" that new students undergo, so faculty members have to be aware of retention issues, especially for under-represented students (who leave at a higher than average rate). We will have to find the right balance between giving students guidance and encouraging them to develop discipline. Steps could include creating CTLT programs on life skills for students and best practices for courses.

The letter sent to the Senate by retired professors James Vanderlaan and Andy Weeks was discussed. Concerns expressed included student writing skills, possible faculty mentorship programs, and costs/benefits of teaching support through CTLT and the Office International Studies and Programs (OISP). The question for AAC may be how widely these concerns are held on campus.

Writing across the curriculum is being looked at again, and may be discussed at future AAC meetings if budget concerns that ended the WAC task force's efforts a few years ago are no longer seen as a constraint.

7. **STAFF REPORT:** Hurd – None

8. **MISCELLANEOUS:** None

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Savage moved to adjourn. Hughes seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.