

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

3:05 – 4:30 p.m. Room: MLT 102-C

Minutes – Meeting #15

Date: April 10, 2024

Members (8):

Thomas Howe, Joshua Newport (Chair), Bert Stabler, Robbie Graham, Yi Ren, Susan Chen (Recording Secretary), Sumesh Philip, Allison Kroesch
UCC Executive Secretary: Amy Hurd

Members Absent:

Stef Gardiner-Walsh, Sheryl Henry,

Guests Present:

Danielle Lindsey, Registrar's Office
Theresa Sanchez, Registrar's Office
Julie Lynd, LAN
Chris Horvath, PHI
Cheri Simonds, COM

1. Convened: Newport convened 3:07 pm

2. Introductions

3. Minutes: Meeting #14 Date: March 27, 2024. Accepted as distributed.

4. Action Items:

1. New General Education Program—UCC review/approval

Simonds gave an overview of the proposal including the core principals, vision, structure, learning outcomes, certificates, and significant changes. The floor was opened to questions. Philip asked about a math course and how AI could be used as a math course. Horvath stated that there is room for departments to create courses as long as it meets the definition of the category and the learning outcomes. A student could graduate without a course with an MAT subject code but needs a course that meets the learning outcomes and definitions of the Quantitative Literacy category. This opens the opportunity for courses such as statistics. Kroesch stated that the beauty of this new structure was that it opened the opportunity to participate in gen ed to departments that were shut out in the current structure. Newport said that any department could propose a course in any category. Each course would only have 1 category it fit into, and courses would be reviewed every 5 years to make sure they still adhered to the category. It is also preferred that gen ed courses have no pre-requisites and are not major blocked. Departments can reserve up to 50% of the seats for their majors. Stabler asked if every course was aligned with a certificate option. The answer was no, and faculty will determine what these certificates will be.

Lindsey asked how we would manage 50% of the seats open. Hurd responded that we need to work through the details. It could be managed with how we open seats or have a section for majors only and a section for non-majors. We currently do this with some History and Special Education courses. Graham asked how we would handle the demand for certificates. Hurd responded that we manage supply and demand as best we can. Horvath explained that certs are 9 hours. Graham asked if Applied Writing Inquiry was like writing in the discipline. It was explained that it could be. Chen asked if we would have to review all courses for new categories. Hurd said that yes and that we will have to develop an

implementation plan to do this and other things. She estimated it could take 4 years to get all of this ready. Stabler asked if there was a concern about the imbalance in the number of courses. Hurd explained that we have that now. The broader categories should help with that somewhat. Lindsey asked about being transfer friendly. IDS courses could be challenging getting IAI approval. Simonds answered that faculty will be encouraged to design the course so they are transfer friendly. Horvath said that there would be an implementation committee that will come up with the plan to make it work. There are so many procedures and policies that impact this, that we need a group to look at all of that. Graham asked if the gen ed elective could be double dipped with another category, and it can't. Major and gen ed courses can double dip.

Lindsey asked if there was any consideration to what courses could be taken on a P/NP basis. Hurd said that should be part of the implementation process. She also asked if a student could take a majority of their courses from the same department. Horvath explained that the Task Force considered this. If a student did this, it is antithetical to what gen ed should do. He hopes that departments would consider this and not offer courses in all categories. Departments should focus their courses on their own discipline. Stabler asked when courses would start to be reviewed under the new curriculum. Horvath explained the review process and the implementation team would determine this. Sanchez reminded the UCC that a student comes in on a catalog and will have to fulfill the gen ed they come in with until they graduate. Graham stated that he really liked the learning outcomes and vision. He asked that if it was most important that a student hit all the learning outcomes. Simonds explained that all 15 LO's are accounted for in the categories, but a student could leave without meeting all 15. Learning outcome 3.1 (Demonstrate responsibility for contributing to a more just, equitable, and sustainable world) is only in the experiential learning category. Learning outcome 2.5 (Collaborate in diverse teams) is only in one category. Simonds said that it will also be in COM 110 even though it isn't listed as required learning outcome right now. Horvath explained that we limited the number of learning outcomes for each category to give faculty more freedom in their course design. Courses can have more learning outcomes if they want. Graham asked about the lack of a shared experience for our students. Simonds explained that we talked about establishing a foundational set of courses, but the Task Force decided that the shared experience came from the learning outcomes and vision rather than a common course. Horvath explained that one of our core values was to let the students create their own experience that was most meaningful to them. Students will do this through their approach rather than taking the same courses. Graham asked about our gen ed being fewer hours than IAI. Hurd explained that we would put students in the gen ed curriculum that was best for them and that only half of our students complete our gen ed curriculum.

Motion to approve: Stabler

Second: Philip

Approved 7 Abstained 1 (Graham) Motion passed.

5. Liaison Assignments:

a. Council on General Education (Newport)

Continued GE discussion, approval of GE proposal.

b. Council for Teacher Education (Kroesch)

In process of reviewing bylaws, which will continue into next year.

6. Staff Report: next meeting on 4/17/24, two Nursing proposals. This will be the last meeting of the semester.

7. ADJOURN:

Motion: Kroesch

Second: Chen

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.