

# College Curriculum Committee

## Minutes: October 21, 2010

*In attendance:* Dunn (AAH), Watts (ENG), Ahmed (FCI), Spinner (L&L), Steel (PHL), Alfaraz (SPP), Domer (THR), Blythe (WRAC), Campbell (Undgrd Student Rep), DeLuca (Undgrd Student Rep), Paulsell (UCC Rep), Swenson (Assoc Dean), Walker (Dean's Office), Roraback (Dean's Office)

**1. Agenda Approved.**

**2. Chair Comments (Blythe):**

Blythe defined his main task as facilitating CCC meetings and discussions. He distributed a worksheet derived from Robert's Rules of Order that will be used as guidelines for committee work.

Newly elected undergraduate student representatives Campbell and Deluca were introduced.

**3. Associate Dean Comments (Swenson):**

Swenson welcomed UCC representative and former Associate Dean Paulsell to the CCC.

Provost Wilcox received the College's request to merge French, Classics & Italian with Spanish & Portuguese. He sent this to UCAP which returned it to him with no objections or reservations noted.

At his annual talk, Provost Wilcox expressed disappointment that few colleges had initiated curricular changes that would offer students greater flexibility and faster movement toward degree completion. However, he noted efforts by CAS and CAL in this area.

**4. Minutes from the September 16, 2010 CCC meeting were reviewed and approved.**

**5. UCC Sub C and Full Committee Updates**

\* APPROVED: Changes to College graduation requirements that will allow students to do cognates in or out of CAL – effective Spring 2011.

\* APPROVED: Changes to the Design Specialization occasioned by changes in CCAS courses.

\* APPROVED: Arabic B.A. Elementary and Secondary Teaching Minor.

\* APPROVED: Elementary and Secondary Arabic Teaching Minor.

\* APPROVED: Name change from Graduate Specialization in Women and Gender to Women and Gender Studies Specialization.

\* APPROVED: Changes to the Women's and Gender Specialization

\* APPROVED: New course WS 492 Advanced Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies.

\* APPROVED: Reinstatement of the course: THR 803 Acting Theory

The next meeting of the UCC Sub C is November 4, 2010.

## 6. **Teacher Education Council Updates**

\* Religious Studies will need to initiate a moratorium on the RS Teaching Minor since it has been discontinued by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

\* Those present were apprised of the state (MDE)-mandated changes to the elementary education certification [(1) all students must have one of 5 majors, MSU will offer 4, including Literacy Education, which includes significant coursework in CAL; (2) the state is also mandating more work in art and physical education.] In addition, the outcomes were changed in the Social Science certification, requiring a complete rewriting of that curriculum by CSS. These changes were in process, but due to the MDE by October 31, 2010. All departments whose courses are part of the program have been asked for sign-offs (the changes affect primarily AAH, THR, ENG, and WRAC).

\* The COE/TE is down 100 applicants from this time last year. They encouraged those present to promote teacher education to their students.

The next meeting of the Teacher Education Council is November 1, 2010.

Swenson also noted that a study is in progress of language minors and majors on various dimensions in terms of pass rates on the SOPI test and statewide testing (including MTTC). Teacher Education has concerns about whether minors in various languages can pass statewide tests. Another issue to consider is whether MSU teaching majors found it useful to have language minors in the job search process after graduation.

## 7. **Curricular requests**

### a. **Arts & Letters**

#### **Change in Course**

##### **AL 101 Arts & Letters Freshman Seminar**

Swenson noted that the requested change would make the course repeatable as long as the content is substantially different.

Background: CAL started a 1 credit freshman seminar last year which had very good success. Over one-half of the freshman class is enrolled in an AL 101 section this fall semester. Professor Dànielle DeVoss has proposed a 2<sup>nd</sup> semester version focusing on arts & humanities in 21st Century and digital composing.

A question was raised concerning how changes will be tracked; that is, who will determine if courses are different enough to be taken more than once. Swenson noted that this information (course content in various versions of the course) will be tracked within the CAL office of Academic Affairs.

**APPROVED:** AL 101 Arts & Letters Freshman Seminar as repeatable course.

**b. English**

Change in program

Secondary Teaching Minor: Watts noted that due to recent changes in the English curriculum, ENG 408 will move from a requirement to an elective.

It was suggested that changing the language of the curriculum change slightly would allow more options such as teaching the course off campus or online.

APPROVED: Changes in English Secondary Teaching Minor.

**c. French Italian and Classics**

Change in Program

- Italian Academic Minor

New Course

- ITL 400 Reading Italian for Graduate Students

TABLED: Changes in Italian Academic Minor pending results of study on teaching minors' ability to pass both SOPI and MTTC.

TABLED: New course, ITL 400 Reading Italian for Graduate Students pending revision to provide sample source.

**d. WRAC**

Change in Course

- WRA 308 Invention in Writing

APPROVED: Change in Course, WRA 308 Invention in Writing

**8. Other Business**

Domer reported on a recent meeting of the Big Ten Theatre Chairs and discussion of experiments with free punch passes for students to attend arts and cultural events at various campuses.

Undergraduate student representatives Campbell and DeLuca reported that this would be a practical incentive for students. Both thought they would be more likely to attend events if they received a special pass for the year. Extra credit for event attendance in some courses could also be an incentive. Swenson noted that such a pass could be tied to the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Seminar and could allow students to experience the sociability of attending cultural events with peers. Paulsell noted a form of free pass may have been tried before in the College and it would be advisable to check on the history of any previous program.

Revision of all Tier 1 writing courses throughout the College is in the early stages and will be led by Professors Dànielle DeVoss and Trixie Smith. Chairs will appoint faculty to sit on a committee on Tier I writing which will take the place of the teaching commons for this year.

**9. Meeting Adjourned**

*Minutes submitted by Roraback, checked by Swenson, Blythe.*