

**UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 31, 2005**

**Members Present:** Professors John Avioli, Randall Caton, Laura Deiulio, Robert Hasbrouck, Joan McMahon, Mario D. Mazzarella, John Nichols, Stacey Rilea, Edward Weiss, Ms. Lisa D. Raines, ex officio, Ms. Carol Safko, ex officio, Mr. Sean Rankin, student representative.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 by Dr. Laura Deiulio, Committee Chair.

Dr. McMahon moved to approve the minutes of October 24, 2005. Dr. Hasbrouck seconded. Unanimous approval.

Announcements by Dr. Deiulio:

The Provost has approved PSYC 316 and the renumbering of GOVT 204.

Students who transfer into CNU at the sophomore level or higher will not be required to take the freshman seminar.

Further consideration of the faculty senate proposal to require xxxx 223 as a pre- or corequisite on all area of inquiry courses at the 300 level or higher, that do not already have a prerequisite, will be postponed pending a report from FCLLAL.

Discussion of the relationship between the Faculty Council on Liberal Learning and Academic Life (FCLLAL) and the UCC is postponed until the 28 November meeting of the UCC.

The main business of the day was to be consideration of and voting on acceptance of new courses being proposed for the new curriculum and existing course being proposed for areas of inquiry..

First, a general discussion ensued over an issue debated and acted on in the last meeting: how to administratively manage moving a standing course which has been offered as "writing intensive" and is designated as such in the catalog, to a non-writing intensive course. Dr. McMahon urged that any solution should be one that would protect the most people possible. Mr. Rankin noted that students paid more attention to course identity as it appears in the catalog than its number. Mss. Raines and Safko suggested that the "WI" designation might appear only in the class schedule and not in the catalog, but Ms. Raines noted it was not possible to eliminate the designation from the catalog without deleting it from the transcript. Dr. Mazzarella suggested a specific number and name for all writing intensive courses in a department, no matter the course description similar to senior seminar designations. Dr. Avioli noted a number was better. Dr. Hasbrouck noted that errors might be obviated because students had to obtain a PIN number from their advisors before registering for classes. Dr. Nichols said

that we wanted to allow departments the flexibility to change a course from WI to non-WI, and Dr. Mazzearella agreed.

No new solution having made itself evident, the committee decided to reaffirm its earlier position, i.e.: that it would be necessary to change the course number to offer the course as a non-WI course.

The committee then took up its agenda of courses for consideration:

#### Within the Liberal Learning Foundations

MATH 121 (new course)

MATH 123 (new course)

Dr. Mazzearella moved. Dr. Caton seconded. Committee approved unanimously.

The following courses were considered in collective groups:

#### Within Identity, Institutions and Societies

ENGL 314 (existing course)

Drs. Caton, Rilea, Mazzearella, Nichols and Weiss thought the proposal could better reflect what the area of inquiry proposal says will be done in the course. In particular, a stronger sense of how students are helped to see that the literature studied produces societal patterns would be useful. Dr. Deiulio thought the wording of the area of inquiry proposal was very clear and that perhaps similar wording could be used on the syllabus itself to help students see how the area of inquiry objectives will be met. The committee did not vote on this course and is requesting it be returned to its originator for clarification.

ENGL 315 (existing course)

Again, the committee felt that the syllabus and the area of inquiry proposal could be better coordinated. (See comments for ENGL 314.) The committee did not vote on this course and requesting it be returned to its originator for clarification.

PSYC 303 (existing course) – Moved, seconded and approved for IIS

#### Formal and Informal Reasoning

Dr. Avioli noted that some concerns with the course were resolved by communicating with the department involved and there were no objections to its acceptance. In response to a question from Dr. Deiulio about CPSC 216, Dr. Caton noted that the computer language employed involved logical reasoning,

including inductive and deductive reasoning, on the part of the student and were not simply skills courses.

PSYC 311 (new course) – approved as new course and as part of FIR, with Dr. Rilea's recommended amendment to the UCC form that the minimum grade on the prerequisite course be a C- (verified to Dr. Deiulio by email from Dr. Tim Marshall on 1 Nov 05)

MATH 370 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

MATH 345 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

PSYC 300 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

PSYC 451

Currently offered at the graduate level, the course is being moved to the undergraduate 400 level. Ms. Safko noted that the course had been previously considered and accepted by the Graduate Curriculum Committee, but that the course has not been reviewed by the UCC. Dr. Deiulio stated that it would therefore be returned with the request that a UCC “new course proposal” form be filled out.

CPSC 355 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

CPSC 216 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

CPSC 215 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

ECON 485 (existing course) – approved as part of FIR

Dr. Avioli moved acceptance of the courses, Dr. Nichols seconded, committee accepted.

#### Western Traditions

CLST 202 (existing course) – approved as part of WST

CLST 214

Dr. Mazzarella noted that the history department expressed some concern about the overlap of certain elements of this proposed course and ancient history courses.

Dr. Rilea saw more than an historical perspective in the proposal.

Dr. Nichols remarked that all Area of Inquiry courses would have some historical perspective.

Dr. Deulio reported that she had discussed the matter with the originator of the course, Dr. Brad Buszard, and that, in accordance with Dr. Mazzarella's recommendation at the last UCC meeting, Dr. Buszard would arrange to meet with the History Department Chair, Dr. Sishagne and the other interested History Department members. After the relevant issues are resolved, the proposal will be resubmitted.

Dr. Mazzarella commended the manner in which the question was being addressed.

COMM 249 (existing course) – approved as part of WST

HIST 340/440 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of WST

Dr. Nichols moved acceptance. Dr. Rilea seconded. Committee approved

#### Investigating the Natural World

Note: The subcommittee reviewing these courses had several questions, mainly having to do with how the assignments helped students connect the course material to the INW objectives. Dr. Caton contacted departments directly, and they provided him with updated syllabi. He has emailed them to both Dean Bartels and Dr. Deulio.

BIOL 111 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

BIOL 112 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

BIOL 113 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

BIOL 114 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

BIOL 115 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

PHYS 141 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

PHYS 142 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

PHYS 143 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

PHYS 144 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

PHYS 344 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

ANTH 101 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of INW

Dr. Caton moved, Dr. Mazzarella seconded and the committee accepted these courses.

Global and Multicultural

CLST 215 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of GMP

ENGL 205 (existing course) – approved as part of GMP

ENGL 206 (existing course) – approved as part of GMP

ENGL 324 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of GMP

HIST 374/474 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of GMP

RSTD 315 (new course) – approved as a course and as part of GMP

SOCL 201 (existing course) – approved as part of GMP

SOWK 330

Dr. Deiulio noted that this course looks like an excellent and timely course. However, the language on the syllabus and the language on the area of inquiry proposal form do not exactly correspond. For example, is Africa being studied as a “marginalized culture” in comparison with the US “mainstream” culture? How, specifically, does the course address the impact of culture on politics, economics, etc.? The committee is therefore requesting that the originator revise the syllabus to make the connection between the syllabus and the area of inquiry objectives clearer to students.

SPAN 312, SPAN 351, SPAN 352

All three of these courses are being returned with the request that the originator identify one more objective on the area of inquiry course form.

Dr. Weiss moved, Dr. Caton seconded and the Committee approved these courses.

Dr. Deiulio announced that Creative Expressions courses will be discussed at our next meeting (November 14) because only one member of the subcommittee was present.

The committee discussed whether or not English 320 met the criteria for a writing intensive course. Dr. Caton didn't see the criteria to be used for grading. Dr. Roberta Rosenberg, the course instructor, had communicated via email that she uses the criteria contained in the English department handbook and this was acceptable to the committee. Dr. Rilea noted that what was to be expected of the students had to be clearly communicated to them. Dr. McMahon asked if perhaps a developmental process was indicated in the assignments. Dr. Weiss said that he was confident that this had been done. Dr. Caton said that the student assignments indicated reciprocal communication between the teacher and the student.

Dr. McMahon moved, Dr. Weiss seconded, and the committee approved the course as WI.

Dr. Deulio reminded the members that resubmissions of proposed WI courses were due as soon as possible.

Dr. McMahon noted that the "12 page minimum" for WI courses assumed approximately 400 words per page. General discussion indicated that there should be some flexibility on that to accommodate subject areas such as mathematics where formulae might play a role.

HIST 223, MLAN 223, CLST 223 – These courses will be discussed at our next meeting because the 223 subcommittee has not had a chance to meet yet.

The committee agree to schedule an additional meeting for November 14 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss additional pending submissions.

Business being concluded, the meeting adjourned at 3:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mario D. Mazzearella, Acting Secretary