UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
2015-16 Meeting #8, December 7, 2015

Present: Tim Prather, Matthew Brehm, Dan Eveleth, Janine Darragh, Joe Law, Patricia Hart, Kerri Vierling, Mark Nielsen, Todd Thorsteinson, Rick Stoddardt, Jeanne Stevenson, Don Crowley, and Heather Chermak

Absent: Brianna Larson, Austin Blacker, Ankah Guria, and Kenton Bird

Others Present: Grace Miller, Dwaine Hubbard, Larry Makus, Diane Armpriest, Tom Karsky, and Jill Kellogg-Serna.

Call to order: A quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m. in the Pitman Cataldo room. Todd identified two errors and Dan noted a few typos in the minutes of the November 30 meeting. The minutes were approved, with corrections.

Old Business:

UCC-16-002 PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT WORK GROUP

Heather suggested that the committee discuss this item last. The committee tabled this item for the next meeting.

UCC-16-021 COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

Dan noted that the current proposal to change the Agricultural Systems Management Major allows for counting certain requirements twice. Larry explained that it was the department’s intention to strengthen the basic requirements. Dwaine suggested that the department list Comm 101 in the Core, but add an asterisk and a note that Agricultural Systems Management majors must complete it. Tim noted that the key is to make the changes clear and accessible to students. To that end, he asked how the asterisk would be coded to appear in the Catalog. Dwaine noted that he would like to limit use of the asterisk. The committee moved to approve the changes to the major, amended so that Comm 101 is listed in the Core and not in the major requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Grace relayed information from Shishona Turner regarding the FCS 425 Collections Management course; she noted that the Family and Consumer Sciences Department has access to the Leila Old Historic Costume Collection and shouldn’t require assistance from the library to provide its students with resources. Rick clarified that the library manages multiple collections around campus, like the Lionel Hampton Jazz Collection. He explained that the extent to which this new course will require assistance from the library is still unclear. He suggested that Larry speak with Dean Baird. The committee elected to table this proposal for the second time.

UCC-16-023 COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

Larry explained that the department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering previously split into two: one department with an Engineering emphasis and another department with an Agricultural Systems emphasis. The latter department retained the BAE name but is no longer associated with engineering. Larry explained that the newly named department intends to offer a Soil and Water program with a precision agriculture component, as many water resources engineers stayed with the BAE department after the split. Mark noted that the department division was the result of money-saving efforts that required trimming departments, but this division led to two separate departments, instead. He asked how the administration would function. Larry explained that there was no department head or administrative assistant following the division, but the name change is the first step toward building a functional infrastructure with the current resources in mind. Mark asked how the current BAE department would overlap with the department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences. Larry responded that the soil faculty would come from PSES. Joe noted that the department changes occurred last year, separate from this final step to change the BAE department name.

Matthew asked for clarification regarding the financial impact. Larry responded that the department recognized there would be a $100,000 outlay to create the department and a significant financial impact in order to acquire
the necessary administrative resources. He noted the possibility of receiving endowments. Patricia noted that the University Curriculum Committee has no power to create departments or give funding and Larry noted that the department anticipates a curriculum attached to the re-named BAE department. It was noted that the committee may ask for the financial impact in order to inform its decision-making, but decisions related to a department’s funding are ultimately not a UCC responsibility. Joe noted that no matter what the new department is called, it’s important that it not be called “Engineering,” as it is no longer associated with the Engineering program. It was moved and seconded to approve the name change from “Biological and Agricultural Engineering” to “Soil and Water Systems.” The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

**UCC-16-029 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE**

Dan suggested that the committee discuss the USAC specialty site first. Jill explained that the University Studies Abroad Consortium began in 1981 and formalized over the next decade. The University of Idaho joined in 1992. She explained that whenever USAC adds a new specialty site, the International Programs Office informs the committee so that students can receive UI credit for courses they take during their study abroad programs. She noted that some courses will transcript directly and others will transfer, like courses that students take at a university in another country. In jest, Rick asked whether committee members could visit the site before approving the proposal. Jill noted certain opportunities available to faculty and staff abroad. It was moved and seconded to approve the new USAC Specialty program. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-027 COLLEGE OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE**

Dan suggested that the committee discuss Art and Architecture changes next, as Diane Armpring was in attendance. Diane identified the following changes: updating course names to clarify their content, updating the credit hours to better reflect demands, and joint listing an undergraduate and graduate level studio. It was moved and seconded to approve all changes to the Architecture courses. It was also moved and seconded to approve the Art and Design course. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that “Instructions” ought to be “Instruction.” Diane asked if departments where these courses are also required would have to submit paperwork for the same changes. Dwaine explained that the changes will be reflected across all departments.

**UCC-16-021a COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES**

It was moved and seconded to approve the new Agricultural and Extension Education courses. The motion passed unanimously. Dan identified changes to the Animal and Veterinary Science Major: removing a redundant set of AgEc Managerial Economics courses, adding a Sheep Science course to each Option, replacing MMBB courses with their Biology equivalents, and adding AVS 411 and AVS 475 to the Science/Pre-veterinary Option. Tim noted that MMBB 409 and 432 should be struck completely. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes to the AVS Major. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan noted that the Food Science requests to reactivate two courses included an improper rationale: “Course... should not be dormant as it could be taught at UI in any given academic year.” Mark noted that departments may not want courses to go dormant and Dan noted that it was important for departments to have access to the dormancy list. It was moved and seconded to approve these two reactivated courses. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-024 COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES: Item One

Dan, Tim, and Dwaine noted that the International Studies department is proposing the addition of 3 Geography electives to the International Studies Major. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes. The motion passed unanimously.
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES: Item Two

Dan noted that the changes to the International Studies Minor are primarily a matter of simplifying the curriculum. Mark notes that no matter how students divvy up their credits between the two requirements, they must take 18 credits to earn the minor. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes to the International Studies Minor. The motion passed unanimously.

MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

Dan noted that the department is decoupling the labs from the courses by removing them as corequisites, but not also requesting to drop the labs. Presumably, these labs would disappear if they aren’t taught. Patricia noted that the department intended to open the courses up to more people and Janine suggested that someone might take an introductory language course prior to traveling. Matthew asked for clarification regarding the phrase: “Students with French experience who place higher than 101 on the placement exam may not enroll in Fren 101.” The committee determined that this referred to testing above the course level. Grace suggested that she add the prefix before every instance of “101” in the proposed changes. Regarding the Modern Languages and Cultures Minor and the Modern Language Business Major, Dan noted that the department’s only request is to remove the labs from the requirements. It was moved and seconded to approve the course changes, the changes to the minor, and the changes to the major. The motion passed unanimously.

PSYCHOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Todd explained that the department is proposing to drop Comm 235, add some Comm 235 content to Comm 433, and change Comm 433 to a 300-level number. The re-numbered Comm 433 course will be moved from the elective list in the Communication Studies Minor requirements to the required list. Dwaine asked if students could take the new 300-level course and replace their grade in 235 or 433. Todd replied that he was unsure. Dan suggested that committee members vote on the proposed changes and then allow Todd to work separately with his department and the Registrar’s Office about the course equivalencies. It was moved and seconded to approve the course changes and the changes to the Communication Studies Minor curriculum. The motion passed unanimously.

UCC-16-025 COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

BUSINESS: Items One, Two, and Three

Dan explained that the department did not want Bus 454 to go dormant, but it did, so they are requesting to add it back.

Dan explained that Bus 290 is being changed to Bus 310 because it is truly a 300-level course. He explained that the department proposed to remove some of Bus 370’s prerequisites in order to force flow through the curriculum and avoid a bottleneck. Mark noted that Math 330 has nothing in common with the Stats courses and Dan responded that he wasn’t sure why it had been added to the prerequisites. Dan explained further that the prerequisites added to Bus 490 are taken from Bus 390. He noted that these changes reflect what the courses should have been from the beginning. It was moved and seconded to approve all course changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan explained that Bus 390 is being dropped from the Business Degree and may go dormant, but still exists. He explained that 390’s prerequisites had to be “moved upstream” and Mark noted that this ensures that students don’t take 490 until the end. Dan explained that this allows students two opportunities to take 490: either the first or second semester of their senior year. It was moved and seconded to approve the curricular changes to all majors within the B.S.Bus. Degree.
Dan explained that the phrase “Upper division courses in related field areas” caused friction when Economics professors couldn’t agree on whether or not a course qualified, which necessitated replacing it with “Additional upper-division University of Idaho course.”

Regarding the Finance Major, Dan explained that the department was requesting to add an elective course to the curriculum that department members assumed was already there—Bus 466 Marketing Trading Strategies.

Finally, Dan explained the changes to the CBE Common Requirements. The department requested to replace Phil 103 with Phil 208, a course built by the Philosophy department for use in the Business Department. Dan noted that the phrase “or equivalent” was meant to signal that students from other schools could transfer credits. It was suggested that the committee strike the phrase. It was moved and seconded to approve all curricular changes, with “or equivalent” removed. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan suggested that the committee discuss changes from the College of Engineering before changes from the College of Natural Resources, as time was limited and some of the COE changes are proposed effective Spring 2016.

It was noted that the BE 411 description included reference to topics changing each semester. Joe explained that this was added to encourage students to seek permission to attend, even if they hadn’t completed the exact prerequisites listed. Dan asked if they knew what topics were coming and Joe responded that they did not. Joe explained that the phrase “or permission” in the prerequisites alerted students that permission was possible. Rick noted that the course prerequisites could be listed under Recommended Preparation, instead. Mark noted that he liked the use of parentheses to delineate the prerequisites.

Joe explained that the department chose to strike “(Fall, odd numbered/years)” from the BAE (BE) description in order to provide flexibility, as the department still intends to teach the course consistently. It was moved and seconded to approve the new course and the change to BAE (BE) J494/J594. The motion passed unanimously.

Joe explained that MSE 341 was being struck from the Materials Science and Engineering Minor because it is not taught regularly. He also explained that a) Phys 464 is being added because it is cross listed with NSE 464 and b) the Phys 212L 1 credit lab is being added alongside the 3 credit Phys 212 course. It was moved and seconded to approve these changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Tim asked for clarification regarding the addition of “CS112 carries no credit after CS120.” Heather explained that this prevents students from taking CS 112 after taking a higher level course. It was moved and seconded to approve the two course changes. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to approve the changes to ECE 427. The motion passed unanimously.
MECHNICAL ENGINEERING

Mark suggested that “or equivalent” be struck from the ME 541 description. Joe affirmed. It was moved and seconded to approve the ME 541 changes and strike “or equivalent” from the language. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan asked if approving the newly cooperative courses for Spring instead of Summer would impose work for the Registrar’s Office. Heather responded that it would, but that the work would be manageable. Mark asked what paperwork is required to propose that a course become cooperative and Heather explained that the Change paperwork is sufficient, but the other institution has to complete the same internal process. She also noted that the enrollment numbers between the two schools were beginning to even out; that is, an equal number of students are attending UI from WSU as are attending WSU from UI. It was moved and seconded to approve all cooperative Mechanical Engineering changes. The motion passed unanimously.

UCC-16-026 COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

With a minute to spare, Dan suggested that the committee table UCC-16-026 until the next meeting. Dwaine noted that the agenda item included two items that need to go to the Provost’s office before appearing before the committee again.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. UCC will reconvene after the break.

Grace Miller, UCC Secretary