Present: Matthew Brehm, Dan Eveleth, Janine Darragh, Joe Law, Patricia Hart, Kerri Vierling, Mark Nielsen, Todd Thorsteinson, Tim Prather, Jeanne Stevenson, Don Crowley, Rick Stoddardt, Kenton Bird, Heather Chermak
Absent: Ankah Guria
Others present: Grace Miller, Rebecca Frost, Dwaine Hubbard, Leonard Garrison, Mark Warner, Brian Ellison.

Call to order: A quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m. in the Pitman Cataldo room. The February 8th minutes were approved unanimously.

Dan noted that UCC-16-034 is first, but that it no longer includes the changes that were previously controversial. Dan also noted that UCC-16-032c has been pulled from the agenda.

UCC-16-034 University Committee on General Education

Dan asked Kenton to explain how the committee decides which courses belong to which categories. Kenton explained that there are four catalog categories for general education courses. The committee conducted a comparison between Humanities and Social Sciences and between the two diversity requirements to determine where courses belonged. He explained that a faculty member or department chair who wishes to propose a course for inclusion submits a short proposal to UCGE via uidaho.edu. Proposals should address how courses meet the criteria. Then, there is a brief discussion at UCGE about whether the course first that category. There are multiple courses known as “double dippers,” which satisfy two requirements at once. After a vote from UCGE the courses come to UCC for review.

Kenton noted that this proposal includes a number of new history courses that were intended to be submitted alongside a long list of courses from CLASS. These courses either did not make from the college to UCGE or from UCGE to UCC. He explained further that the distinction between the Social Sciences and Humanities courses often dealt with how instructors approached the subject.

Kenton told the committee that he, Don, and others had a larger philosophical consideration: the sheer size of the list. Mark asked whether it was necessary to list all of the courses in the catalog, as opposed to including language like “Choose one of the approved courses designation on the general education website.” He noted that he is working with a member of Advising to develop ways to more easily present the approved list to advisors in addition to streamlining it.

Mark noted that the changes are similar to the previous cluster cores. He said “We’re getting back into that territory with the way the degree audits read now … and it’s probably inevitable.” Mark also noted that there are a “ton of petitions” every year from students who want to waive certain GE credits because they took another course that they feel should count toward that requirement. He explained that the longer the course list gets, the harder it becomes to tell students that they have to take something from the approved list.

Kenton noted another concern: some courses on the list are not offered regularly, but the Committee is attempting to ensure that General Education courses are offered more regularly than courses that are not General Education.
Tim noted that there were more courses from some disciplines than others. Kenton explained that the Natural Resources and mathematicians may be more logical and have identified the fundamental skills, which leads to fewer choices. He explained that the Committee is being more flexible as it pertains to core science courses because that is an opportunity for the disciplinary crossover in some of the sciences, which is attractive to students looking to satisfy more requirements. Kenton said that he would have to bring Tim’s concern to UCGE.

Todd suggested that the imbalance may have to do with prerequisites. He told the committee that Psychology has only one course in the Social Science General Education courses because it is the only course without a prerequisite.

It was moved and seconded to approve the changes. The motion passed. Mark opposed.

**UCC-16-032 ENGLISH**

Dan suggested that the committee discuss items subject by subject, since the changes are largely related to one another. Mark asked whether there were concerns regarding the overlap between Engl 408 and courses available through Education or Early Childhood Development. He noted that it wouldn’t be a problem if there were sufficient distinction between the programs. Janine explained that the Masters in TESL program is geared toward students who want to teach English overseas, while the Education Department’s program is for people who want to teach ESL in the states.

Dan noted that the phrase “at least one of the following” may not be necessary in the Engl 419 prereqs. Don noted that the Professional Writing Emphasis’ electives list is “very narrow.” He asked: “What’s being singled out there?” Patricia responded that “English is having a sort of interspecies shift,” wherein the department is directing their curriculum toward environmental writing and politics, as there is a great deal of talent and ability in environmental writing that informs some of the department’s choices for appropriate electives. Dan noted that all the curricular changes are underlined, but there are really only two changes: both courses. Rick asked for clarification regarding the line “Any English course numbered 200 or above that has not been taken to satisfy one of the above requirements.” Kenton explained that it goes with the electives list as there is no space in the catalog. It was moved and seconded to approve the English changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 HISTORY**

Kenton noted that “What is the study of the past” should have a question mark. Dan and Mark clarified that History 511, 512, 516, 517, and 518 are being dropped, but the 400-level joint-listed courses are remaining. Matthew noted that the History Major now requires only 3 credits of non-American history instead of 6 and Patricia noted that the change is “actually quite fraught.” She explained that the department is less concerned about credits outside the individual emphases. Mark noted that the reduction applies only to the emphases. To that end, the European Emphasis also require 3 credits of non-European history courses.

It was moved and seconded to approve all History changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

Dan asked Heather if the wording regarding credits in IS 310 is consistent with the catalog and Heather affirmed. Kenton noted that the names are very similar and Mark suggested that the committee table
this proposal and return it with the other courses returning to UCC. The committee elected to table both items.

**UCC-16-032 JOURNALISM AND MASS MEDIA**

Janine noted that Education no longer offers a certificate for Teaching Journalism, which means that they would not have students to recommend 418 to. Kenton noted that the absence of the certificates makes the intention to cross-list with Education irrelevant.

Dan noted that the JAMM 365 rationale includes the phrase “professional use of social media across majors,” but the prerequisites may prevent students outside JAMM from taking the course. Kenton explained that the phrase refers to majors within JAMM and Patricia added that the courses listed are core courses for all 200-level JAMM courses. Dan noted a typo in 365: “hand-on” should be “hands-on.” Patricia explained that it has been a while since the JAMM department made changes. She noted that this change is important because all students need visual literacy education, including the basics of photo and video storytelling. Dan asked whether the “Permission” prerequisite for JAMM 352 would create an administrative problem and Patricia responded that the course has been offered with Music, alongside the Jazz Festival. She said that the permission requirement has never been a problem. To that end, both Music and Public Relations students have taken it. Dan asked whether there would be enough room to accommodate demand and Patricia responded that the course would likely accommodate up to 30 people. She noted that assigning the course a number might increase demand.

It was moved and seconded to approve all JAMM changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**

Dan noted that the changes to the Latin American Studies Major (B.A.) include changing a required number of courses from seven to nine, while the credits required increased from 21 to 27 credits. He noted that some of the courses are less than three credits; if students were to take those courses, they would need to take more than nine courses to fulfill the credit requirement. Mark and Heather suggested alternative wording: “25 to 27 credits” and “or a minimum of nine,” respectively. Dan responded that the necessary wording depends on the intent: Is it the number of courses or the number of credits that the department wants to enforce? Don noted to the committee that he believed the department intended to enforce the credit restraint.

Kerri asked whether the cross-listings were approved. Dwaine checked a handful of the listed courses and noted to the committee that they are already cross-listed. Dan asked if it were common to include both prefixes in a cross-listing and Dwaine affirmed. Dan suggested that the wording be changed to: “27 credits, at least six of which must be Spanish credits. It was moved and seconded to approve the curricular changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

Dan suggested that the committee discuss the courses being added: Chinese through Spanish. Patricia noted that there are two new Chinese faculty members located in Boise and Mark asked whether the distance designation meant that the courses would be available at another UI campus or on the web. Matt noted that some of the new courses are available in multiple geographical locations and
designated as available via distance while others are available in the same places and not available via distance. Dan suggested that the committee might approve the courses and request clarification.

Matt noted a typo in NezP 103: “Nex” should be “Nez.” Kerri asked whether students need to meet a certain score on the placement exams specified in the Chinese prerequisites. Rick asked what the test entailed, in terms of written and oral components. Patricia said: “I know that they have exit exams, but as for exams leading up to getting in a course, I don’t know.” She suggested clarification. Dan asked how a student would know what to do if they saw the listings in the Catalog. He asked whether there were standard language for courses that require placement exams. Dwaine noted that the Math and English with placement requirements simply refer students to a website. Mark noted that Math only recently removed the score requirements themselves from the prerequisites, as they became unwieldy. Matt noted that it was difficult to keep the scores updated as they changed. Patricia suggested that the committee ask whether the exam is departmental or national. Dan suggested that the Chinese prerequisite mimic the Math language.

Regarding the changes to language that deals with vertically-related courses, Rick asked whether they were meant to use the term “cascading” instead of “vertical.” Dan noted that most of the vertically-related courses already exist and the changes deal primarily with removing labs.

Dan noted that the language minors include the phrase “courses to total 20 credits,” but some of the requirements total more than 20 credits. Matt suggested a change to “courses to total a minimum of 20 credits.” Dan noted that German is clearly more than 20 credits, but he also noted that he did not have a problem with the language if it were standard for the Catalog. It was moved and seconded to approve the MLC changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 MUSIC**

Leonard noted two areas in the curricular changes where changes were not represented. Dwaine asked if MUSX 410 should be taken multiple times for credit, since topics change and Leonard responded that MUSX 410 is a capstone course that students should only take once. Dan asked why MUSC 425 now must be taken for a minimum and two semesters and Leonard clarified that the Composition degree “is not really a composition degree,” as students have to wait until their fourth semester to begin composition. The changes the MUSC 425 are meant to encourage students to begin composition right away. Dan asked whether the system could check that students have taken a prerequisite at least twice and Leonard noted that the Music department enforces something similar with studio instruction. Heather noted that the Registrar’s Office could enforce it through the degree audit, but the system itself cannot check prior to registration.

It was moved and seconded to approve all Music changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 ORGANIZATIONAL SCIENCES**

Dan asked why 494 can be taken for a maximum or 16 credits and Mark said: “it seems appropriate in this case; it’s essentially internship kind of credit.

Regarding the Organizational Dynamics Undergraduate Certificate, Dan noted the following phrase: “Three credits of Comm, OrgS, PolS, Psyc 400, 404, 494, 498, or 499 may be substituted for one of the above courses with the approval of the Director of Organizational Sciences.” He asked whether those
course numbers applied to all the prefixes listed. Heather responded that it could refer to any Comm class, but she noted that there is also a Comm 400. Kerri noted that the numbers all refer to directed study and special topics kinds of courses.

Rick noted that ORGS 220, 222, and 221 are all becoming 300 level courses. He asked what justified the change from a lower division to an upper division. Patricia told the committee that she asked the advisory board the same question and received no answer. Tim noted that the committee ought to ask for a content-related justification. Mark noted that part one of the rationale said: “We are currently teaching this course at a higher level than when we first proposed it.” Dan asked Patricia if she was uncomfortable with that justification and she responded “ultimately, their faculty is the judge.” It was moved and seconded to approve all changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Brian told the committee that the departments were making some big changes and some small changes. He explained that he hoped to protect the Philosophy unit during the department changes that combine Political Science and Philosophy into one department. He noted that the changes to the major came after an examination of political science programs across the country. The department found that political science programs are largely based on inquiry, “which provides for a great assessment moment” as it teaches students how to ask and answer political questions. Specifically, the department contacted Reed and borrowed much of the new curriculum from them.

Dan noted the grouping of courses and Brian responded that he wasn’t sure he agreed with the grouping, but that it would orient students toward what the field looks like. He noted that protecting the Philosophy program is a priority, as they already host a vibrant and active philosophy and undergraduate program. He explained that there are 165 students enrolled in political science and 40 enrolled in philosophy; meanwhile, he intends to make it impossible for people to separate those numbers. Combining the departments brings the combined enrollment to 205.

Regarding the changes to the Political Science Major (B.S.), Brian explained that most universities have dropped the Political Science B.S, but have not kept the language requirements in the B.A. The proposed changes to the B.A. include 16 hours of language, while the B.S. requires additional research. Dan noted that the new curriculum did not appear on the form; the editor neglected to include it.

Dan asked whether students could complete the Comparative/International Politics Minor and the Political Science Minor without taking any 300-level courses or above. Brian said: “We as a department get nothing from minors.” He noted that most minors are that way because the department lacks the necessary breadth of faculty. It was moved and seconded to approve all Philosophy and Political Science changes, with the exception of item 7, which will return on February 29th. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-16-032 SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

Dan elected to skip the Psychology and Communication Studies changes in order to allow Mark Warner to speak to the Sociology and Anthropology changes before the end of the meeting. Mark explained that the intent is to clean up the Sociology curriculum, as about 60% of the Sociology and Anthropology faculty are new and the department is adding courses specific to the people they hired. Regarding the research methods courses, he noted that the changes are designed to bridge the gap between Sociology
and Anthropology. This will ensure that students in both majors have training in quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Kenton noted that Soc 417 matches the cross-listed course, Anth J417/J517, but Soc 408 does not match its cross-listed course, Anth J410/J510. He asked whether it were possible to switch Anth to J408/J508. The Registrar’s office will be looking into that change.

Rick noted that the Criminology Abroad capstone is listed as 464 under the Adds, but 463 in the curricular requirements. Todd noted that Anth J417/J517 should be listed as 3 credits and not 2.

Don asked what “Sociology of Sports” referred to and Mark responded that it is a pet course from a sociologist. It was moved and seconded to approve and Sociology and Anthropology changes, contingent upon updates to credits and numbers.

The meeting closed at 5:00. UCC will reconvene on Monday, February 29th, 2016.

Grace Miller
UCC Secretary