UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2016-17 Meeting #4, October 17, 2016

Present: Patricia Hart, Dan Eveleth, Jerrold Long, Robert Heinse, Heather Chermak, Taylor Raney, Kenton Bird, Joe Law, Don Crowley, Jeanne Stevenson,
Absent: Austin Blacker, Ankan Guria, Brianna Larson, Dinara Storfer, Rick Stoddardt, Matthew Brehm, Tara Hudiburg
Others present: Grace Miller, Dwaine Hubbard, Rebecca Frost, Alton Campbell, Jerry McMurtry

Call to order: A quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 3:40 PM in the Pitman Cataldo room. The September 26 minutes were approved unanimously.

UCC-17-001 COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Patricia Hart reminded the committee of problems with language discussed at the last meeting. Joe Law noted the line “in addition to accreditation of individual programs” and asked Jerry McMurtry if all programs were accredited, which is what this line suggests. Jerry responded in the negative and the committee elected to replace the phrase with “in addition to the accreditation of some individual programs.”

Joe Law asked whether “regionally” in Academic Requirements referred to regions in the United States and Jerry McMurtry affirmed. The committee chose to add “U.S.” after “regionally accredited.” Joe also asked for clarification regarding the word “accepted” in Priority Deadlines and Application Fees. He asked: “accepted or reviewed?” Pat suggested that it be replaced with “considered.” The committee affirmed.

Jerrold Long asked if the College accepts out-of-date GREs. Jerry explained that some departments will and Robert suggested adding a note about the five-year expiration. Jerry responded that it is already on the website and the College did not want to insert language referencing a policy that may change.

Jerrold noted that it would be helpful to have a copy of the original proposal alongside the final version.

With regard to Concurrent or Multiple Level Curricula for Graduate Students, Pat asked what the concurrence referred to. Jerry explained that students can earn concurrent degrees between COGS and Law.

The committee returned to discussion of the use of “may” with regard to fees. The relevant lines read: “however, an undergraduate may be charged graduate fees for any courses placed on a graduate transcript” and “Students may be assessed graduate fees for courses placed on a graduate transcript.” Jerry explained that the College has no policy in place to prevent students from moving courses from their undergraduate transcript to their graduate one in order to increase their undergraduate GPA. The use of “may” allows for case-by-case consideration, so administrators don’t have to track down students mistakenly charged too much. The committee elected to leave the language intact.

Jerry McMurtry explained substantial changes to the section Application Requirements for International Students: previously, the College only considered applicants with seat time equivalent to four years of enrollment; now, the College will consider students who have earned three year degrees at international institutions.
Joe asked whether non-international students for whom English is not their first language will have to demonstrate proficiency in their application. Jerry provided an example of a student who was born in the U.S. but moved to India with his parents as a child. He did not speak English when he applied to the University. In a case like that, Jerry explained, the student would have to demonstrate proficiency. The committee considered adding additional language, but ultimately elected to leave the section as-is for the convenience of international students who rely on the presence of words like “international” in order to navigate the catalog.

Jerry explained a change in policy regarding transcripts: the College now accepts copies of official transcripts in order to expedite the admissions process. Students are required to submit an official transcript after admission. Students are also allowed to hand deliver transcripts. He informed the committee that the instance of fraud is low and the transcripts pass evaluation by staff members training in evaluation. Suspicious files go to a professional evaluator. Dan Eveleth noted a typo: “unofficial” should be “official.”

Jerry McMurtry noted that the International Student Advisors are a new addition to the College’s services. It was moved and seconded to approve the document as amended and the motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-17-002 COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Grace summarized the updates to the new courses tabled from a prior meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the two new courses and the motion passed unanimously.

It was also moved and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-17-009 HONORS PROGRAM**

Alton Campbell introduced the changes. He explained that more and more students are entering the University with advanced credits and dual enrollment credits, which means that holding them to the same distribution requirement might be an obstacle to staying at the University through graduation. He noted that removing the distribution requirement would provide more flexibility to students.

Jerrold Long noted that the Honors course requirements are written differently between sections, but appear fundamentally the same. Alton responded that it was repeated for clarity and Jerrold suggested that the three sections use the same format à la “Students have two options.” Jerrold asked where research fell within the credit requirements and Alton explained that it is captured in the total 16 or in the academic/experiential requirement.

Dan Eveleth asked if the “Honors Scholar with Distinction Award” added up to 30 credits because of the additional thesis requirement and Jerry responded that the thesis is credit free. It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed new language. The motion passed unanimously.

**UCC-17-007a OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

Heather Chermak reminded the committee that the Prior Learning Assessment workgroup re-examined alternative credit opportunities and created a new policy that passed UCC and Senate last year. Dwaine Hubbard explained that they were waiting for State Board approval before submitting changes to the
academic regulations. He noted that the changes are primarily clarification. Jerrold Long asked why “Credit in courses offered by the College of Law may not be obtained by this procedure” was struck out. Dwaine responded that credit by examination is only available to undergraduate students, regardless.

Jerrold noted that the change from “Experiential Learning Credit” to just “Portfolio” was not very clear. The committee elected to change “Portfolio” to “Experiential Learning Portfolio.” The committee also elected to restore “experiential learning” at the bottom of the section.

Dan noted that the catalog says that IndT 407 is available for 1-24 credits, but 1-2-c says that students may earn up to 30 credits. Dwaine explained that the accrediting body allows for 30. Grace noted that IndT 407 is being considered for dormancy on the current agenda. Jerrold noted that “may receive vertically related course(s)” is missing the word “credit.”

UCC-17-007b OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Dwaine Hubbard explained the change: instead of listing out alternative credit opportunities, J-2 will refer students to Regulation I.

UCC-17-007c OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Pat Hart noted that removing J-5-a (as proposed) could threaten the University’s accreditation. Dwaine noted that that State Board dropped the policy and UI is the only institution that hasn’t. Jerrold noted that there could be problems with accreditation if the University allows students to come in with 84+ credits from other institutions. Kenton Bird told the committee that he would vote against the proposal at General Faculty.

Heather noted that the purpose of the proposal is to help students transferring from 2-year to 4-year universities, as the University of Idaho is considered unfriendly to the transfer students. Don Crowley noted that the policy change appeared to be a “back door.”

The committee elected to approve UCC-17-007a-c, as amended, with the exception of Regulation J-5-a of UCC-17-007c. The committee elected to table J-5-a in order to gather feedback from the colleges before voting. It was moved and seconded to approve the regulation changes. The motion passed.

UCC-17-008 OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

It was moved and seconded to approve the final examination schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

UCC-17-010 THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

The committee elected to table the dormant courses.

Hearing no additional questions, Chairperson Hart called the meeting to a close at 5:00 PM. UCC will reconvene on Monday, October 24.

Grace Miller
UCC Secretary