UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2016-17 Meeting #7, November 7, 2016

Present: Patricia Hart, Dan Eveleth, Jerrold Long, Robert Heinse, Taylor Raney, Kenton Bird, Joe Law, Don Crowley, Jeanne Stevenson, Dinara Storfer, Rick Stoddardt, Tara Hudiburg, Heather Chermak
Absent: Austin Blacker, Ankan Guria, Brianna Larson, Matthew Brehm, Others present: Grace Miller, Dwaine Hubbard, Rebecca Frost, Sara Mahuron, Russell Meeuf, Jim Nagler, Mark Nielsen, Mickey Gunter

Call to order: A quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM in the Pitman Cataldo room. The October 31st minutes were approved unanimously.

Old Business:

UCC-17-005 COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

It was noted that these courses are brought forth in conjunction with the proposal to create a Film and Television Studies program. The committee also noted that the prerequisites attached to Engl 446 and JAMM 471 are not also attached to the course they are both cross-listed with, The J441/J541. The committee elected to approve the courses on the condition that “Engl 231 or Jamm 231 or Permission” be added to The J441/J541’s prerequisites. It was moved and seconded to approve the new courses. The motion passed.

UCC-17-013 GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Mickey Gunter clarified for the committee that the 5-day field trip takes place over a long weekend. He explained that 290 and 490 (parts one and two of the field geology sequence) used to occur in different semesters; this change allows transfer students to take the courses back to back. Numerous committee members noted that it is typical for students enrolled in these kinds of field courses to miss a few days of class.

The committee elected to add “Field Geology” to the course name. It was moved and seconded to approve the course change, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

UCC-17-018a-c FILM AND TELEVISION STUDIES

Russell explained that the new Film and Television Studies program is built from existing infrastructure with an emphasis on entertainment media in order to provide a “film school experience.” Russ noted that only one new course is being added to support the program. Pat noted that the program is slated to begin in Fall of 2017, not Fall of 2018, as the form indicates.

Rick Stoddardt noted that other, similar programs across the country have resources that the University of Idaho does not. Joe Law asked for clarification regarding the budget, specifically “new tuition revenue.” Russ noted that the Provost’s office entered the budget items. It was moved and seconded to approve the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.
Jim Nagler introduced the changes. He explained that the new Medical Sciences program is part of the 5 Year Plan. He clarified that it was initially planned for a later date, but the President specifically ordered it. Jim noted that this new major is considerate of student needs because it is flexible and interdisciplinary, a necessary emphasis in the face of the changing MCAT. Rick noted that the Library was not contacted and Jim responded that he contacted the WWAMI librarian several months ago. Rick noted that the Library’s resources may not be adequate.

It was noted that Idaho State University offers a similar program that is not listed under “Similar Programs.” Jim noted that the programs listed on the form are nearly identical to the proposed program, while the ISU program is only the most similar offered in Idaho.

Joe asked why the budget section estimated costs at 0, despite the estimated 50 new enrollments in 2018. Jim noted to the committee that the President promised to divert resources in order to support the new major, but the Provost’s Office removed reference to it. Pat Hart noted that all the Film Studies costs were also stripped at the Provost level.

Sara Mahuron noted that it is often recommended that students not enroll in certain courses or majors because the impact on their grades may negatively affect their ability to attend medical school. Jim responded that the intent of the major is to prepare students for medical school. Mark noted that upon approval, the Medical Sciences degree would immediately become the most difficult major outside the College of Engineering. Sara asked how the department would encourage students to enroll and Jim responded that they anticipated 1) incoming in-state students choosing this degree over others and 2) the migration of currently enrolled students.

Dan Eveleth noted that the electives are limited and the major is full, which may serve as an obstacle to transfer students. Jim responded that the major’s first two years are identical to other majors on campus. Dan concluded that “the proof will be in the placement.”

It was moved and seconded to approve the new program. The motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no additional questions, Chairperson Hart closed the meeting at 4:40 PM. UCC will reconvene on Monday, November 14, 2016.

Grace Miller
UCC Secretary