CALL TO ORDER: A quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM in the Idaho Commons Crest Room. Don noted a correction to the November 28 minutes: “offer upper-division credits in ‘related fields’” should read “require upper-division credits as ‘related fields.’” The minutes were approved unanimously, as amended.

NEW BUSINESS:

UCC-17-030 OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Kenton Bird introduced the changes. He explained that in the online GEM portal, the University’s communication courses are all designated as “oral” as opposed to “written.” Joe Law asked what changed at the State Board level that now requires this change and Kenton responded that the changes come from the state-wide General Education committee. Heather noted that prior requirements were not broken down this specifically.

Diane Kelly-Riley noted that the Engl 101 and 102 sequence is standard for all UI students. Kenton noted that there are a couple universities with different “written” requirements. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes, but no vote took place.

Joe noted that adding an additional 3 credits of Written Communication makes most engineering majors 131 credits. Kenton responded that in the process of transcribing high test scores, the credits for 101 are automatically awarded. Heather Chermak noted that many students go directly into 102, so the proposal is not changing much of the current language. Diane noted that Boise State University’s General Education requirements feature the following language in their Written Communication requirement: “3-6 credits depending on placement.” Joe noted that many students do take more than 6 credits of written communication courses, but the problem is with requiring a higher number. He also noted that adding Engl 317 as an alternate second part of the 101/102 sequence would allow the College of Engineering to maintain their majors’ current credit limits.

The committee elected to use the same language as BSU and reinsert “the requirement is proficiency.” Kenton informed the committee that he would send a summary of the proposed changes to Grace Miller if the committee approved them as friendly amendments.

Regarding the Oral Communication requirement, Kenton noted that 1) the changes are appearing before the State Board in February 2017 and 2) in order to have the necessary courses listed in GEM, the committee needs to approve them and send them on to Senate. Pat noted that these courses appeared last year and UCC asked that descriptions be updated.

Dan Eveleth asked if a college could propose a General Education course and Kenton responded that any proposed course would need to pass UCGE. Rick Stoddart asked whether there were any concerns that
fewer students would take 207, 208, or 316 after they are removed from the Oral Communication list. Diane responded that fewer students may take 316, but 207 and 208 typically see high enrollment. She noted that the courses’ content did not fulfill the requirements.

Kenton summarized the remaining changes—adding courses with the General Education designation and re-lettering the requirements for consistency.

The motion on the table passed unanimously, including suggested changes to the proposed language.

Old Business:

**UCC-17-024   OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

Pat Hart suggested increasing the upper-division credit requirement in J-1-b to 42 credits (UCC-17-030) in conjunction with striking J-5-a. She identified other universities with the same credit requirement. Dan moved to amend the requirement from 36 to 40 credits, rather than 42. It was seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jeanne Stevenson noted that they are two different issues; one is State Board policy, the other is University policy. She noted: “they don’t really have a relationship.”

It was moved and seconded to approve the changes to J-5 jointly with the approved change to J-1-b. The motion carried.

Chairperson Hart closed the meeting at 4:47 PM. UCC will reconvene on January 23, 2017.

Grace Miller

UCC Secretary