UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2017-18 Meeting #15, February 12, 2018

Present: Jerrold Long, Torrey Lawrence, Robert Heinse, Liz Brandt, Heather Chermak, Lori Baker-Eveleth, Taylor Raney, Jaap Vos, Catherine Yenne, Rick Stoddart, Tara Hudiburg, Joe Law, Cher Hendricks
Absent: Esmael Alyami, Hannah Spear, Dinara Storfer, Dean Panttaja
Others present: Grace Miller, Dwaine Hubbard, Greg Turner-Rahman

The UCC14 Minutes were approved.

UCC-18-040 College of Art and Architecture
Greg Turner-Rahman noted that the language requirement is a holdover from belonging to the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences; he noted that the College of Art and Architecture intends to convert the requirement into a couple semesters of capstone. Heather Chermak noted that the University’s definition of a B.A. includes the language requirement. It was noted that the B.A. in Physics is an exception to this general rule. The proposed changes to the Art Major were voted down.

With regard to item two, Jaap Vos noted that the program was too eclectic and the department was not able to predict the skills with which students graduated. He noted that the proposed changes to the Bioregional Planning and Design Program will emphasize planning skills and de-emphasize GIS, which is largely unnecessary for planners in the Mountain West. Vos noted that the target audience is professionals who need more expertise. The updates were approved.

UCC-18-014-Tabled College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
It was noted that the green credit totals are informational and will not appear in the Catalog. The Food Science changes were approved, with a recommendation from the committee that the department make the credit requirements consistent across all options.

UCC-18-036b College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
It was noted that the previous budget for the new M.S. Plant Pathology was way too high. Liz Brandt noted that the committee looks at budgets like these in order to spot check and inform curricular changes. The updated budget was affirmed unanimously.

UCC-18-041 College of Engineering
Chairperson Law noted that the person who previously taught these courses was engaged as Associate Dean, but is now available to teach them again. Long asked why these courses weren’t presented previously and Law responded that it was a matter of timing. Law also noted that some of these courses are offered as Section 40 so students in Idaho Falls can watch, but the courses will not originate there.

Discussion
The committee discussed the planning and deadlines document distributed by the Registrar’s Office. Chairperson Law noted that the deadlines are a draft and as dates firm up, the distinction between substantive and non-substantive B category changes may also become clearer. Cher Hendricks noted that all programs proposed for 2020 are currently undergoing market analysis. She noted that the process is more hands-on as the stakes are higher and the State Board will shut down programs that don’t meet enrollment goals. Hendricks also noted that in order to get on the 3-year plan, departments need to work with their Deans in order to submit a draft/mini-proposal.
Chairperson Law presented copies of 1640.91, which outlines the UCC’s function (reproduced below). He noted that the provisions do not perfectly match the committee’s actual behavior. Law noted three options: strike language inconsistent with the committee’s behavior, discuss the relevance of the provisions in question, or collaborate with the Teaching and Advising Committee in order to ensure these roles are being fulfilled. Brandt noted that the Teaching and Advising Committee and the University Curriculum Committee come at these roles from different angles. She also noted that striking the language would mean abdicating a key part of faculty governance. Finally, she noted that any policy that the UCC votes on is guaranteed review at Faculty Senate.

Torrey Lawrence noted that there are a variety of people with roles in advising and recruitment, including the Vandal Success Coalition, whose “work has just begun.” Tara Hudiburg asked whether this were an opportunity to increase faculty involvement and Brandt responded that it would be within the purview of this committee to be more involved. Chairperson Law suggested that the committee reconvene in order to discuss the committee’s role further.

Lori Baker-Eveleth moved to consider A-2. Hudiburg seconded. The motion passed with two abstentions. Chairperson Law and other relevant parties will meet to discuss the objective and frame the discussion for UCC’s final meeting.

Long suggested that “except Law” be removed from the section “B. STRUCTURE,” as it would benefit curricular discussion to have a permanent Law representative on the committee.

With regard to previously discussed 75-minute meeting patterns, Dwaine Hubbard noted that classroom scheduling unit reviewed the proposal and found that any courses that don’t meet for exactly three hours a week would have to meet on Friday.

Hearing no additional questions, Chairperson Law closed the meeting. The final UCC meeting is not yet scheduled.

UCC Secretary
Grace Miller
(From the Faculty Staff Handbook)

1640.91

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

A. FUNCTION. [See 1540 B and C and also 4110 and 4120.] [ed. 7-98]

A-1. To act on catalog changes involving the curriculum, including changes in the general requirements and academic procedures, and to coordinate curricular matters among UI’s major academic divisions.

A-2. To recommend policies and procedures concerning the matriculation, advising, and registration of students.

A-3. This committee traditionally meets on Mondays at 3:30 p.m. [add. 7-08]

B. STRUCTURE. One faculty member from each college except Law and Graduate Studies, of whom at least one must be a member of the graduate faculty and at least one of whom must have experience in an interdisciplinary area; one faculty member at large, one faculty member from the library, two upper-division undergraduate students; one graduate student; and the following without vote: vice provost of academic affairs, registrar, secretary of the faculty (or their designees), and the director of general education as a non-voting member of the University Curriculum Committee. To assure a quorum alternates for the faculty positions are appointed by the chair of the University Curriculum Committee from a list of those who have previously served on the committee from that college. If there should be no such alternates available from a particular college, the chair of that college's curriculum committee is the designated alternate. [rev. 7-98, 7-06, 7-08, 1-09, ed. 8-12]