

## UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

2018-19 Meeting #17, March 4, 2019

**Present:** Diane Prorak, Cher Hendricks, Taylor Raney, Sanjay Sisodiya, Bert Baumgaertner, Dean Panttaja, Mark Nielsen, David Pimentel, Madi Bergeman, Liz Brandt, Hannah Spear, Julie Beeston, Robert Heinse, Tara Hudiburg

**Absent:** Jesse Smith, Irene Ogidan, Jean-Marc Gauthier

**Others present:** Grace Miller, Rebecca Frost, Dwaine Hubbard, Mark Warner

The UCC16 minutes were approved.

### **UCC-19-051                      Plus Minus Grading**

David Pimentel noted that in contrast with the rest of the University, the College of Law has always used plus and minus grading. He expressed the concern that what is proposed now for the rest of the university is inconsistent with how GPAs are calculated in the College of Law. For example, an A- at the Law school is a 3.67, while the proposal before the UCC would count an A- at 3.7.

Hannah Spear noted that she was in favor of the proposal but believed it would be successful only if the university instituted mandatory grade reporting throughout the year. She noted that it is unfair to students to include such precise measurement without consistent reporting.

Mark Nielsen noted that it is artificial to increase the number of bins without improving the quality of data. He also noted that despite the proposed change being optional, faculty that do not implement it would probably get complaints from students.

Sanjay Sisodiya noted that Boise State and Washington State both offer a D-. He noted that if consistency between institutions is a motivating factor for the change, then the grading scale should match. Member Sisodiya moved to amend the proposal to include D- at .7 and A+ at 4.0 (alongside the A). The proposal was approved as amended, 5 in favor and 4 against.

### **UCC-19-053                      Joint JD/MS Applied Economics**

Cher Hendricks noted that this proposal is similar to the recently approved JD/MPA. David Pimentel noted that the proposal is important for recruiting purposes. He also noted that a student could technically be admitted into the M.S. and then into the J.D., but it is not the recommended course given the strictness of Law admission standards. The joint program proposal was approved.

Hearing no additional questions, Chairperson Raney closed the meeting at 3:55 PM.

Grace Miller

UCC Secretary