

## UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

2019-20 Meeting #8, October 28, 2019

**Members (those present in bold, \* indicates voting member):**

**Lori Baker-Eveleth, Chair\***

Mark Adams\*

**Julie Beeston\***

**Lindsey Brown**

**Jim Connors\***

Stephen Fox\*

Jean-Marc Gauthier\*

Cher Hendricks

Aleksandra Hollingshead\*

**Mark Nielsen\***

**Dean Panttaja**

**Diane Prorak\***

**Francesca Sammarruca**

**Steven Shook\***

**Manoj Shrestha\***

**Sanjay Sisodiya\***

Jesse Smith\*

Hannah Spear\*

**Guests Present:** Rebecca Frost, Dwaine Hubbard, John Crepeau, Christopher Williams, Dave Tank, Raymond Dezzani

Lori Baker-Eveleth called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm.

The October 21, 2019 minutes were approved.

### **Announcements and Communications**

- Lori Baker-Eveleth brought up the catalog change from a requirement of 36 to 40 upper-division credits. Bob Rinker in Coeur d'Alene is asking the committee to revisit that issue since it is negatively impacting many of his students. Do we want to add that to the agenda for a future meeting?
- Julie Beeston spoke to it – there is currently a Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Idaho (UI) and North Idaho College (NIC) that allows Computer Science students in Coeur d'Alene to begin their studies at NIC and continue seamlessly towards a Bachelor's degree at UI. The catalog change ends up requiring many of those students to get more credits than they actually need in order to meet the requirement for 40 upper-division credits. Julie Beeston would support a decision to revisit that requirement.
- Lindsey Brown thinks we need to have further discussion on this, since lowering that requirement back to 36 credits could have other unintended consequences. She gave an example of a student who ended up taking 56 credits online from various universities in one summer session. She is concerned that relaxing the requirements will perpetuate more situations like that.
- Rebecca Frost added context by briefly explaining the reasoning behind the change, which became effective with the 2017-18 catalog year.
- Bob Rinker joined via Zoom to clarify his proposal, which is to drop the upper-division credit requirement back to 36 credits rather than 40. Their curriculum allows students to attend their first two years at NIC and they generally receive an Associate's Degree there. Thus, students have all of their General Education requirements for UI waived. When they start taking UI classes, there are 35 credits of classes that are required that are not available at NIC. There are three additional courses that can be taken either at NIC or UI. Even though those classes from

NIC transfer to equivalent upper-division UI courses, they don't count as upper-division classes for the purposes of this policy because they are transfer credits. With the current policy, students would need to take at least two of those three courses from UI, but those are not always easily available (i.e., offered online or offered regularly enough). Otherwise, the students are stuck having to take 5 additional upper-division credits in something else to meet the requirement.

- Lori Baker-Eveleth says this should be added to a future agenda and the committee agreed.

## **Unfinished Business**

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 474, 574

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** Deep Learning is being proposed as a new class. This topic has become very important. Mark Nielsen hopes he can take the class.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Steven Shook

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 477, 577

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** John Crepeau proposes this be tabled for now since there are concerns from the Statistics department that there is already another class that is similar to this one. They have plans to sit down and review the content to see how similar they are and where to go next.

**Motion to table these classes:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Outcome:** Unanimously tabled

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 489, 589

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** These were taught as Special Topics for the last couple of years and they would now like to make them official.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Mark Nielsen

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 441, 541

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** Bob Rinker normally taught these courses here in Moscow but he has been up in Coeur d'Alene for a while getting their Computer Science program up and running. Now that he is able to teach them again, they would like to reactivate them. This would be effective Spring 2020. Mark

Nielsen asked if that is allowed, even though it will not appear in the catalog until Summer, and Rebecca Frost indicated it is. There was a clarification on how it will be taught. It will be offered via both Engineering Outreach and compressed video.

**Motion:** Steven Shook

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 507

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** They are changing the description in order to better reflect what's being taught in the class. Lori Baker-Eveleth asked about the removal of permissions and John Crepeau indicated this is a graduate-level course so there's no need for Permission to be required.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** CS 383

**Speaker:** Julie Beeston

**Discussion:** Julie Beeston teaches this course. This is a 6-credit course at most universities but it was dropped to 3 credits a few years back to make room for the capstone course in the curriculum. That leaves barely enough time to cover everything, which is a problem since this is a big part of the ABET accreditation requirements. Lori Baker-Eveleth asked whether students are doing presentations in this class and if so, whether that should be included in the course description. Julie Beeston thinks that is already clear since it's listed in the ABET standards. John Crepeau also thinks it's implicit in the last sentence of the description, which mentions "projects." Lindsey Brown asked whether a program change is required because the increase in credits will take it beyond 120. Rebecca Frost does not think so. Sanjay Sisodiya clarified whether the program would update automatically to reflect the change in credit hours. Rebecca Frost indicated it will.

**Motion:** Julie Beeston

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** ECE 370, B.S.Comp.E., and B.S.E.E.

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** This is a course change and two related curriculum changes. John Crepeau requests that we table this, as well.

**Motion to table these items:** Manoj Shrestha

**Second:** Diane Prorak

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** ENGR 220

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** Some students will take MATH 175 at the same time as ENGR 210 (Engineering Statics) but not do well in it. They fail the class, but they are already signed up for ENGR 220 and remain in the class. These students typically struggle, since ENGR 220 is a math-intensive class. Mark Nielsen asked if this will impact sequencing and John Crepeau said yes, if you fail either MATH 175 or ENGR 220 you will be out of sequence. Mark Nielsen asked whether adding this requirement will impact the sequence in any way. Sanjay Sisodiya explained that as long as they don't fail a class, then the sequencing will remain the same as it is now. But if they fail, this will prevent them from moving forward with ENGR 220 and that will set them back. However, that is better than having them proceed with ENGR 220 if they are not fully prepared.

**Motion:** Steven Shook

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** ME 495

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** There is already a faculty member who does work in Mechanics and Materials. This would be an important elective in their curriculum.

**Motion:** Manoj Shrestha

**Second:** Diane Prorak

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** ME 123

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** MATH 170 was a prerequisite not for the Math content, but to ensure that students were prepared in the sequencing. ME 123 was traditionally offered in both Fall and Spring but they are hoping to offer it only in the Fall to streamline the program. Thus, student would not necessarily be taking MATH 170 yet. They intend to reduce the level of the corequisite classes to allow students to take ME 123 in the Fall alongside MATH 143 and 144.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Steven Shook

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-023

**Items under discussion:** NE 587

**Speaker:** John Crepeau

**Discussion:** This would be taught down in Idaho Falls and paid for out of the Idaho National Laboratory Educational contract. This is much needed since a number of nuclear power plants are being decommissioned. It would also be offered in Moscow via video conferencing live feed as well as via Engineering Outreach.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

### **New Business**

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 154, 155, 405

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** Mark Nielsen gave background – these are courses that used to be offered but the department will not offer them moving forward. The 154/155 are now offered by EPPN and the 405 is no longer needed because of the restructuring of Anatomy and Physiology.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 102 and 102L

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** These are General Education classes, not just for Biological Sciences majors. Lindsey Brown asked why the first line does not specify “Biology.” Mark Nielsen explained that the intention is not just to exclude Biology majors - there are four other majors in that department and all of those should be excluded. A friendly amendment to clarify the language was proposed and accepted. Lori Baker-Eveleth clarified that these two courses are taken concurrently and Mark Nielsen explained that such is the intention, but this can be a bottleneck and they want students to have the flexibility to retake one of them if they fail it, without having to do the other simultaneously.

**Friendly Amendment:** Amend first line to say “Not open to majors or for minor credit in the department of Biological Sciences.”

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 114, 115

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** The change to BIOL 115 is based on multiple years of collecting data from students who take this with the listed CHEM classes as either a prerequisite or a corequisite. The data shows that students who have taken those classes as a prerequisite do much better overall. The goal of this change is to reduce the number of DFWs in the class. Lori Baker-Eveleth clarified whether the labs are separate for these. The answer is no for BIOL 114 but yes for BIOL 115. BIOL 115 and BIOL 213 are the only courses Dave Tank can think of where the lab is not separated out and the department would like to keep it that way.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 220, 221

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** At other universities, Anatomy and Physiology are taught simultaneously but spread out over two semesters (part 1 and part 2). Here at UI, we have taught them separately – one semester of Anatomy and one semester of Physiology. The course content is so interconnected that the instructor has struggled to keep them separate, particularly since most existing textbooks teach them simultaneously. Moving it from a 100-level to a 200-level course will also match what other Idaho universities are doing. It will make these classes more transferable without needing the instructor to write a special letter explaining why they are numbered as 100-level courses here. Lindsey Brown had a question about repeatability. If a student failed just Anatomy or just Physiology in the past, they would now be retaking it as one of the new courses, which has the content broken down very differently. Mark Nielsen asked about how repeatability will work since they are changing numbers. Lindsey Brown explained that if the two courses are linked (the old 120 and the new 220), they would be able to repeat one of these. This is because they are being proposed as a change to existing courses, rather than completely new courses. Mark Nielsen and Dave Tank agree that it should not be a “Change Course” but should instead be an “Add Course” and “Drop Course” so it will not be considered equivalent to the prior BIOL 120 and 220. In addition, Rebecca Frost asked about GEM requirements and whether these need to be numbered per the recommended GEM list. Dean Panttaja clarified that this is not a required course per those GEM standards. However, the designated GEM number would be 227 if we wanted to stay consistent with that. Mark Nielsen made a motion to amend this and make it a new course with new numbers to match the GEM numbering. Dwaine Hubbard verified that BIOL 227 and 228 are available course numbers. Lindsey Brown suggested that if they ever want to separate out the labs, now is the time to do it. Dave Tank verified that they do not want to separate those labs out since they are essential to the content and must be integrated with the lectures.

**Friendly Amendment:** Make these new courses BIOL 227 and 228 (not equivalent with former BIOL 120 and 121)

**Motion:** Jim Connors

**Second:** Mark Nielsen

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 301

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** The legal office said the department was at risk of violating federal labor law since students were volunteering in labs doing research. These are students who want the practical experience of working directly on research but do not need academic credit hours. This often takes place in the summer. Allowing zero credits will allow those students to gain hands-on research experience without having to pay for the credits. The legal department has verified that having the students sign up for zero credits will resolve the issue.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**Note:** Julie Beeston pointed out an email from Mark Nielsen requesting that any Law issues be pushed to another meeting as he is unable to attend this week's meeting. There are no Law proposals on the agenda except one class on the dormant list, which Rebecca has already discussed with the College of Law.

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 401

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** Lindsey Brown asked if this one should be worth 0-4 credits, as well. Mark Nielsen says no because this is part of the required Senior Experience so it should always be taken for credit. Dave Tank also pointed out that having the 301 available for zero credits now will fully meet the needs of the volunteers.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Diane Prorak

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 408

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** There were previously two 400-level practicum courses – one associated with Anatomy and one associated with Physiology. Now that those courses are being reformatted, BIOL 405 is being dropped and this course is being changed so it will meet the needs of both Anatomy and Physiology. Lindsey Brown asked a question about changing it from a Practicum to a Pedagogy. Lindsey Brown says "Practicum" is a term that includes specific features (e.g., service learning) that are reported out. Does the department really intend to change that? Dave Tank and Mark Nielsen clarified that these are undergraduate students working in the lab with students taking the A&P classes. Lindsey Brown and Dwaine Hubbard spoke and agreed that these 408/409 classes probably were not included in the reporting now because most practicums fall under certain standard course numbers, and that is where information about Practicums is pulled from. Steven Shook asked about why the BIOL 401 says it cannot be used as an upper-division elective requirement and this one can. Is that correct? Mark Nielsen says that yes, this has been used in the past as an elective but it required Substitution/Waiver forms. This will not be included on any elective lists, so it would be a special situation and would still require Substitution/Waiver forms. Lori Baker-Eveleth thinks the language about credits versus labs might be confusing. Mark Nielsen does not think so. Several committee members acknowledged that students are often confused by things we would not expect.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Steven Shook

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 456, BIOL 549

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** This is just a change in content, requested by the instructor. The new description gives a few more specifics than the old course description.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** BIOL 545

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Steven Shook

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** Biology B.A. and B.S., Medical Sciences B.S.

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** The changes here are to add one choice to the writing component (a new class) and to restore a list of electives that used to be there and mysteriously disappeared. Rebecca Frost explained that this was part of a catalog software changeover – it was not intentional. Dave Tank indicated that the changes to Medical Sciences and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology are similar so they could potentially be considered in one group. Lori Baker-Eveleth noted that on the Medical Sciences curriculum change, BIOL 408 should have the new title. Rebecca Frost clarified that these will change automatically and don't need to be managed individually. Any changes made at the course level should trickle down to the affected curricula.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** Biochemistry B.S., Molecular Biology and Biotechnology B.S.M.B.B., Microbiology B.S.Microbiol.

**Speakers:** Dave Tank, Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** Mark Nielsen explained the proposed adjustments and said they are relatively minor and straight-forward.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOG 317, 517

**Speaker:** Raymond Dezzani

**Discussion:** This is a new course, also referred to as Dendrochronology. The department has not had a tree ring specialist in the past and now they have one.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen



**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOG 414

**Speaker:** Raymond Dezzani

**Discussion:** This course was made possible by the addition of a new faculty member and it is an extension of GEOG 385. It was offered a year ago and was very popular, so they are making it a permanent addition for social scientists who do not know how to implement GIS with any level of success.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOG 487, 587

**Speaker:** Raymond Dezzani

**Discussion:** They are reactivating the dormant 500-level course and adding an undergraduate course. These will be joint-listed and can be subtitled. Rebecca Frost asked if students should be allowed to take this more than once and if so, how many times. Raymond Dezzani explained that different faculty will teach this and the course topics will change from one semester to the next. He says students could retake the class as long as the title differs from the prior times they took it. An amendment was made to allow maximum credits to be arranged. Lindsey Brown pointed out that we cannot enforce the recommended preparation. She also questions why the language about contacting the instructor is necessary in the course description. Mark Nielsen agrees, particularly since varying subtitles will give students information about the topics being covered each semester. A friendly amendment was made to delete that sentence. Steven Shook asked about the mention of GEOG 486 and 586 in the rationale. The rationale mentions that those courses are being deleted but there is no paperwork to drop them. Rebecca Frost and Dwaine Hubbard verified that those courses are currently dormant and Mark Nielsen says that is appropriate and that is where they should be.

**Friendly Amendment:** "3 credits, max arranged" for both 487 and 587, delete the sentence "Contact instructor in a given semester" from the course descriptions of both 487 and 587.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOG 407, 507

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** Geography B.S.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** Climate Change Certificate and GIS Certificate

**Speaker:** Raymond Dezzani

**Discussion:** Lindsey Brown asked why we are listing graduate-level courses for an undergraduate certificate. Raymond Dezzani clarified that there are graduate students – particularly from the College of Natural Resources – who take the certificate from time to time. Some of the graduate courses listed do apply to the certificate. Also, some undergraduates can fulfill the requirements to be able to take the graduate level classes during their senior year. Steven Shook asked if a graduate student can really pursue an undergraduate certificate. Lindsey Brown asked why they do not offer a graduate certificate for those graduate students who want this certification. Mark Nielsen says the college does not have the resources to maintain and assess another certificate. In addition, the College of Graduate Studies has specific requirements for graduate-level certificates that this current program would not satisfy (e.g., 50% of classes are graduate-level).

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOL 360

**Speaker:** Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** This change updates the course description to reflect the content more accurately and to reflect how it is taught now. Lori Baker-Eveleth asked about field trips and Mark Nielsen says there have not been field trips recently for GEOG 360. It's now offered online so field trips are impossible. Lori Baker-Eveleth also pointed out a grammatical error, corrected by the friendly amendment below.

**Friendly Amendment:** Last sentence of course description should read, "...landslides, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis."

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOL 448, 548

**Speaker:** Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** This is just a wording change to more accurately reflect the course content.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOL 471

**Speaker:** Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** They are reactivating this course and making a small editorial change to the description.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Manoj Shrestha

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** GEOL 212, 344, 361

**Speaker:** Mark Nielsen

**Discussion:** For 212, the description change is just to acknowledge the reality of how the course is now taught. The field trips are too far away to get there on shorter field trips. The other changes are also straight-forward. They are restoring the Tectonics courses (GEOL 448/548) and GEOL 344 will be a companion to those courses. The content being removed from GEOL 344 will now be taught as part of the Tectonics courses.

**Motion:** Mark Nielsen

**Second:** Steven Shook

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

**UCC Agenda Number:** UCC-20-021

**Items under discussion:** MATH 153, STAT 153

**Speaker:** Christopher Williams

**Discussion:** There are various MATH pathways – some are for STEM majors and some are for non-STEM majors. This will provide a starting point to a pathway for people who want a Statistics course but do not need to do Statistics themselves. Rather, they are generally consumers of statistical information. Mark Nielsen pointed out that the State Board of Education (SBOE) and General Education are requiring a course called MATH 153. Rather than renaming and changing their existing entry-level courses, the college is creating this one to fill a gap and meet those SBOE requirements. Lindsey Brown asked whether SBOE requires that this be taught regularly and count as a General Education class. Mark Nielsen says they will probably teach it regularly under STAT 153, and SBOE will be satisfied because MATH 153 is on the books. He mentioned that while we are generally trying to reduce unnecessary cross-listing, we can blame this one all on Dean Panttaja.

**Motion:** Sanjay Sisodiya

**Second:** Jim Connors

**Outcome:** Unanimously approved

Hearing no additional questions or discussion, Chairperson Lori Baker-Eveleth closed the meeting at 5:02 pm. UCC will reconvene on Monday, November 4, 2019.

Amy Kingston  
UCC Secretary