

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
2020-21 Meeting #5, October 12, 2020

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

Jim Connors, Chair*
Mark Adams*
Bert Baumgaertner*
Julie Beeston*
Lindsey Brown

Jean-Marc Gauthier*
Kalynn Hanley*
Aleksandra Hollingshead*
Mark Nielsen*
Dean Panttaja

Diane Prorak*
Francesca Sammarruca
Steven Shook*
Sanjay Sisodiya*
Bronte Sone*

Guests Present: Stacey Doumit, Rebecca Frost, Amy Kingston, Christopher McIntosh, Beth Scott, Greg Turner-Rahman

I. Jim Connors called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

II. The minutes from October 5, 2020 were approved.

III. Announcements and Communications - none

IV. Old Business

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-010

Items under consideration: ART 100

Speaker: Greg Turner-Rahman

Discussion: Greg Turner-Rahman and Dean Panttaja reached an agreement regarding the name and the common course requirements for Idaho. The short title will be "Introduction to Art" to match the common course name and the long title will be "Introduction to Art: Why Art Matters."

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Sanjay Sisodiya

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-012

Items under consideration: B.S.Ag.Ed. in Agricultural Education

Speaker: Jim Connors

Discussion: Lindsey Brown pointed out the four-year plan and asked why they need 128 credits when there are free electives in the plan. Jim Connors replied that it used to be 132 and they dropped it to 128 several years ago. He would need to ask faculty why it is still at 128. They need a certain number of technical agriculture electives and they also need to meet teacher certification requirements. Lindsey suggested it be reviewed to make sure they are not requiring additional credits that are just free electives when they could get the requirements down closer to 120. Jim described the specific changes being made this time. Bert Baumgaertner clarified that there is no change in the number of program credits. He believes it is unfair to scrutinize the overall program credits when the change being made is unrelated to that and does not impact it. Lindsey pointed out that this may be related to ISEM changes,

too. It is something we will have more transparency about now that four-year plans are being added to the catalog. Amy Kingston asked for clarification about whether this change needs to be reviewed by TECC. It does. It will go there next and return to UCC if TECC makes any changes.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Mark Nielsen

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-012

Items under consideration: AVFS 101

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: Stacey explained the goals for the course. The department believes this will be a high attendance, 1-credit course that serves as an introduction to the department.

Motion: Steven Shook

Second: Bert Baumgaertner

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-012

Items under consideration: AVS 267

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: This will help fulfill Dr. Robert Collier's teaching responsibilities and provide a lower-level, lecture-based Anatomy and Physiology course that goes into less detail than the higher-level Anatomy and Physiology courses that are offered now, AVS 371 and AVS 373. Some students struggle in those courses, which are really only necessary for Pre-Vet students.

Motion: Diane Prorak

Second: Jim Connors

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-012

Items under consideration: AVS 306L

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: They are basically splitting the lab out from the lecture. One primary reason is that they've had requests from the Forest, Rangeland and Fire Sciences department to offer more courses for Rangeland students. Those students would be able to take this lecture and would not necessarily need to take the lab. This will allow the department to expand enrollment numbers in the lecture while keeping the lab numbers low enough to prevent space issues. Lindsey Brown pointed out that we have no way to enforce a corequisite for just AVS majors. She suggests putting that as a recommendation in the course description. Steven Shook asked whether students would know to take both 306 and 306L when the current curriculum requirements list only 306. Stacey replied that their current road map lists both courses.

Motion: Steven Shook

Second: Jim Connors

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-012

Items under consideration: AVS 306

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Motion: Bert Baumgaertner

Second: Jim Connors

Outcome: Passed unanimously

V. New Business

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-013

Items under consideration: FS 350

Speaker: Stacey Doumit

Discussion: This course is now offered at Washington State University with a WSU faculty member. There was an issue with the prerequisites that was corrected in CIM during the meeting. The rationale is straight-forward – the department is merging the Food Analysis and Sensory Evaluation courses.

Motion: Sanjay Sisodiya

Second: Aleksandra Hollingshead

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-013

Items under consideration: Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology name change

Speaker: Christopher McIntosh

Discussion: The department has no academic programs in Rural Sociology and have not for some time. Rural Sociology faculty have dwindled through attrition and changing the department's name will more accurately reflect their offerings. Department chair Christopher McIntosh listed the programs/degrees offered by the department. Changing the department's name will allow them to attract more graduate students and potentially more undergraduate students, as well. Christopher listed many other colleges that use the phrase "Applied Economics." The professional association also uses that phrase in its name. Sanjay Sisodiya realizes that economics has many homes on campus, but he wants to ensure this change has been discussed with all other relevant colleges, specifically the College of Business and Economics. He would like to know a conversation with them has happened before being able to support this change. Christopher said he has had conversations with Eric Stuen, an Economics faculty member in CBE. He also pointed out that there is no official Economics Department on this campus. Sanjay pointed out that Eric Stuen is not in an administrative role. He thinks this should be discussed with the department chair, Scott Metlen. Christopher says they are not trying to pull something over on CBE and this is not a zero-sum game. He also mentioned that he has had conversations with Marc Chopin, the Dean of CBE, as well. Francesca Sammarruca asked for clarification between Applied Economics and Non-Applied Economics. Christopher shared a list of journals in which faculty have published, many of which contain the word "Economics." Bert Baumgaertner agrees with Sanjay that a conversation needs to be had with CBE. Whether or not they agree, there should at least be a conversation. Stacey Doumit reiterated that most comparable departments across the country include Applied Economics in their title. Sanjay asked whether CLASS also needs to be involved in this conversation. Christopher is concerned this will get bogged down and never get approved if we go that route. There was a conversation about logistics – do we want a representative of CBE to speak before the committee?

Steven Shook stated that in the past, other departments have sent memos saying they support the change.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Mark Adams

Outcome: no vote taken

Motion to postpone, pending a conversation with CBE: Bert Baumgaertner

Second: Aleksandra Hollingshead

Outcome: passed, 7 to 1

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-014

Items under consideration: LARC 512

Speaker: Beth Scott

Discussion: This is a proposal for a new graduate course since they are separating the MLA from the undergraduate program.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Jean-Marc Gauthier

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-014

Items under consideration: LARC 565 and LARC 566

Speaker: Beth Scott

Discussion: Beth Scott believes we need these course numbers in lieu of using common course numbers 500 and 599 because there are restrictions on those courses that would prevent them from being used in this instance. She is happy to hear comments from this group on the matter and she is waiting to hear back from Jerry McMurtry. Jim Connors asked for clarification about the different titles – one of which is Master’s Project Research and one is Master’s Project. Beth explained that the first course is when the students do the research for the project, and then the second course involves doing the actual application of the project. That is part of what distinguishes this from more traditional thesis or non-thesis research. Lindsey Brown is happy to coordinate with Jerry to find out whether the standard course numbers can be used – she does not want to see LARC use up a number if it is unnecessary. Beth mentioned that one issue has been the limit on applying only five credits to the degree. They want to make sure they can apply a full 12 credits for this project. The committee reviewed FSH 4130 and the restrictions that are placed on 500 and 599 courses.

Motion to postpone until we receive clarification from COGS: Jim Connors

Second: Steven Shook

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-014

Items under consideration: LARC 589

Speaker: Beth Scott

Discussion: This takes content that was offered in a 300-level class and makes it a more intensive investigation of the historical and theoretical underpinnings in the discipline that will be offered specifically for graduate students.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Jean-Marc Gauthier

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-014

Items under consideration: LARC 510

Speaker: Beth Scott

Discussion: This change is designed to strengthen the graduate curriculum. The undergraduate courses are focused more on skill development – this course will include more theory. Lindsey Brown asked if we can abbreviate the short title more appropriately so the Comm aspect is included. That edit was made.

Motion: Aleksandra Hollingshead

Second: Jim Connors

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-014

Items under consideration: Landscape Architecture Minor

Speaker: Beth Scott

Discussion: This update reflects a few course name and number changes that were not previously updated in the curriculum. They are also moving some course from the electives to the required course list. Lindsey Brown pointed out that there are no program learning outcomes. Beth mentioned that she does not have the original ones. She will have to write new ones. There was a discussion about whether the committee is willing to vote without having seen those.

Motion to approve, pending submission of Learning Outcomes: Jim Connors

Second: Kalynn Hanley

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-015

Items under consideration: Accounting name change

Speaker: Sanjay Sisodiya

Discussion: One of the functional areas formerly housed in the Department of Business – MIS – has now moved over to Accounting. This has no real financial impact. They are changing the name to better reflect what the department teaches now. Lindsey Brown asked if we can have this effective as of Summer rather than Fall, so it aligns with the catalog dates. Sanjay Sisodiya thinks that is fine.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Steven Shook

Outcome: Passed unanimously

UCC Agenda number: UCC-21-

Items under consideration: B.S.Rangeland.Consv. in Rangeland Conservation

Speaker: Steven Shook

Discussion: Steven Shook explained the changes, which will help reduce the number of substitutions that need to be made. They have been accepting these courses for years. Lindsey Brown thanked Steve for the effort to reduce substitutions. She then asked about the four-year-plan. Right now, the program requires 122 credits but has free electives in the plan. Can we reduce it to 120 credits? Steve thinks we can. Jim Connors is concerned about making that change when it was not part of the original proposal that came through the department and college. Bert Baumgaertner and Francesca Sammarruca share that concern. Bert suggested we apply this more systematically across the board so each program will fall under the same level of scrutiny. Lindsey explained the process and the fact that we do not have all the four-year plans done, but we wanted to bring awareness to the ones that are going through the process now.

Motion: Jim Connors

Second: Bert Baumgaertner

Outcome: Passed unanimously

VI. Additional Questions or Discussion - none

VII. Chairperson Jim Connors closed the meeting at 4:32 pm. UCC will reconvene on Monday, October 19, 2020.

Amy Kingston
UCC Secretary