

University Curriculum Committee Meeting

Meeting #9, November 11, 2024

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

Erin James, Chair*

Barb Kirchmeier

Francesca Sammarruca

Dave Paul*

Stacy Isenbarger*

Stacey Doumit*

Young Park*

Dan Cordon*

Steve Shook*

Erkan Buzbas*

Norman Lee*

Mark Adams*

Derrick Phillips*

Lindsey Brown

Paul Tietz*

Anya Zuercher*

Gwen Gorzelsky

Guests present: Eric Wolbrecht, Gabriel Potirniche, Annette Folwell, Rachel Halverson, Jia Song, Yumna Kurdi, David Pfeiffer, Thomas Farrer, Ken Udas, Whitney Vincent, Eric Luvaas.

Chair Erin James called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

- I. Nov. 4, 2024 minutes were approved.
- II. Announcements and Communications

Erin mentioned that Kristin Haltiner and she sent a memo to the Vandal Gateway people last week. They decided that they would contact IR to ask for similar data relating to VGP students as well as non-VGP students, so they were able to judge the VGP cohort against what's happening with the larger student population. VGP is gathering data. They were asked to set a timeline but haven't done so yet.

Erin also mentioned that there are some time-sensitive agenda items coming up and it would be helpful if the committee could meet on Dec. 2, but wanted to make sure enough committee members would be available for a quorum. The committee indicated that they would be able to meet on December 2.

Finally, item 2c will be pulled from consideration for this agenda because CNR and CBE would like to discuss this proposal a bit more.

- III. New Business

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-048

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add DAS 6003, 6009, 6011, 6021, 6022, 6024-6029

Speaker: David Pfeiffer

Discussion: This is a group of education-oriented courses geared at teaching future academics how to teach well, as well as some science-oriented courses which are more content oriented on anatomy and physiology-related courses.

Steve had one suggested edit: they ask for “special permission” to get into the course. Steve recommended removing the word “special” as it was not necessary. David agreed.

Erin questioned some of the verbiage in the course description and thought it was confusing for DAS 6022 and 6024, but Steve countered that after talking with David, it made sense.

Stacey I. asked, “do you want to label that class as a seminar considering it's one credit? Some of your courses are two credits, some of them are wider. And I think if you are doing a seminar versus digging in deeper to the content, maybe it's worth naming things that are seminars.”

David mentioned they would be up to changing the title wording to include “seminar.”

Erin had another question about DAS 6027: Since the course description says that the course extends upon the foundational concepts introduced in DAS 6003, should DAS 6003 be a prerequisite for DAS 6027?

David said he thought DAS 6003 was already listed as a prerequisite for 6027, and if not, the proposal should be updated as such.

Stacy D. asked about where the resources to teach the courses would come from. David replied that the money for that will come in part from the tuition they're expecting to generate from this program. But again, most of these education courses will not actually hit the classroom or online until one to two years from now.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-048

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit DAS 6004, 6005, 6007, 6012, 6023

Speaker: David Pfeiffer

Discussion: Erin mentioned that Steve's suggestion of removing the word “special” from the prereqs field would also apply to these courses.

Erin had some questions about DAS 6004 and 6007. She didn't see anything in the course descriptions that indicate these are different courses. David explained that they were breaking the same information between two courses.

Erin also mentioned that it looked like DAS 6004 should be a prereq for 6007. David replied that students wouldn't necessarily need to take 6004 prior to taking 6007.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-049

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Integrated Architecture and Design (MS)

Speaker: Stacey Isenbarger/Yumna Kurdi

Discussion: They requested moving this from the architecture department to the Department of Design and Environments.

Outcome: Approved Unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-050

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Secure and Dependable Computing Systems Graduate Academic Certificate; add Computer-Aided Engineering Undergraduate Academic Certificate; add Thermal Energy System Design and Analysis Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Jia Song

Discussion: None

Outcome: Approved Unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-050

Item(s) Under Consideration: Product Development and Manufacturing Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Eric Wolbrecht

Discussion: Note: this item was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

Eric had a question about who he was supposed to meet to discuss why this item was removed from the agenda. Erin explained that it came from Sanjay in CBE as well as Steve in CNR, Young in CBE, and Dan in Engineering. It was decided that the parties would discuss the issue before coming back to UCC. Erin left it to Dan to get the parties together.

Stacey D. asked why there are so many certificates coming out of their colleges. Eric replied that it was related to what industry was requesting and preparing students to meet the expectations of industry.

Outcome: Postponed until relevant parties can agree on the certificate

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-051

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add Disability and Inclusive Human Services Undergraduate Academic Certificate

Speaker: Eric Luvaas

Discussion: Eric stated that this certificate proposal was an attempt to formalize curriculum that students can take around disability as well as providing inclusive services and attempt to formalize that education and collaboration with the Center on Disabilities.

Erin noted that the first sentence under the curriculum banner in the proposal is unnecessary. The sentence states: The Department of Movement Sciences, in collaboration with the Center on Disabilities and Human Development at the University of Idaho, offers an academic certificate in Disability and Inclusive Human Services. She thinks we could just start by saying this interdisciplinary certificate program provides opportunities.

Stacy I. suggested starting off with "In collaboration with the Center on Disabilities in Human Development, this interdisciplinary certificate program..." Eric said he thought that would be great.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-052

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add JAPN 3100; Edit Japanese for the Professions Undergraduate Academic Certificate; Edit Spanish for the Professions Undergraduate Certificate

Speaker: Rachel Halverson

Discussion: None.

Outcome: Approved Unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-052

Item(s) Under Consideration: Global Citizenship Academic Certificate

Speaker: Rachel Halverson

Discussion: Erin had a question about how the curriculum for the certificate is set up. She noted that it seemed that it had one bucket of IS courses, then a second bucket with a variety of other courses, such as POLS, HIST, and other language courses, and the final bucket consisting of only language courses. So, a student could take a language course, then another language course instead of POLS, HIST, etc. She asked for clarification.

Rachel stated that yes, a student could do that. But they also wanted to open the electives up to other areas and recognize the international components of the curriculum in political science in history, COM 335, which is the intercultural communications course, for example.

Outcome: Approved Unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-053

Item(s) Under Consideration: Edit Natural Resources (MNR)

Speaker: Steve Shook

Discussion: This involves changing the requirement language from 7 credits to two courses to better reflect what is required, adding ENVS 458 and then making specific option changes. The reason it's going from 7 credits to two courses is obvious because a lot of them are three credit courses. There are five options within the MNR program, and so the ENVS 548 is added to the integrated option and then there's an NRS 557 moving to the policy from the bio option to what's called the human dimensions then in the integrated option. And then there's some housekeeping on the restoration ecology.

Dave mentioned that some grad policy was added to the curriculum section of the proposal. Steve said they did this to make it more clear about what they were doing.

Barb mentioned that if grad policy changed, the college would need to remember to update the verbiage in this proposal.

Outcome: Approved unanimously

UCC Agenda Item Number: UCC-25-054

Item(s) Under Consideration: Add MATH 2020

Speaker: Erkan Buzbas

Discussion: This proposal included a lengthy discussion as to whether this course should use a standard course number. It was decided that they would not need to use a standard course number.

Another discussion ensued as to why the course was repeatable up to four times. The course was an introductory course. Erkan explained that different groups of faculty would teach different topics at each iteration of the course. The course was also designed to provide mentorship where faculty would provide information about their research. One of the goals would be that once students became juniors

or seniors, they would know what profession they would be going into, and they may want to take the course at this point.

Steve mentioned that the course description didn't make sense and suggested titling the course. Stacy I. mentioned that titling would prevent faculty from talking about different subjects throughout the semester.

Erin suggested that the course description be changed to "This seminar course will cover topics needed to succeed in the major and involve engaging activities. Topics may include discussion of resources available to students and introduction to specific faculty and their research interests, information about careers, and eye-opening facts."

The committee agreed with the new course description.

Outcome: Approved unanimously with edits

Chair Erin James closed the meeting at 4:32 pm.

Ted Unzicker
Interim UCC Secretary