

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Minutes
Friday December 1, 2017
8:00 – 9:00 AM
Room 107 Lab of Mechanics

Attending: Jelena Bogdanović (Design); Suzanne Hendrich (Human Sciences); Doug Jacobson (Engineering); Jenni Keitges (Registrar's office); Gordie Miller (LAS); Katie Neilson (Student Government); Travis Sapp (Business); Chuck Schwab (Agriculture and Life Sciences); Judy Strand (Graduate College); Mike Yaeger (Vet Med); Karen Zunkel (Provost's office);

New Business:

- Undergraduate Certificate in Actuarial Sciences (Math, LAS; Cliff Bergman)
Cliff Bergman provided a summary of the proposal for a new certificate
 - Companion certificate to the proposed major in Actuarial Sciences from the College of Business
 - Certificate (23 credits) will emphasize Mathematics and Statistics; Major has a greater Business emphasis
 - One of a few, yet lucrative career paths for students with Mathematics degrees
 - Student exit surveys in recent years have asked about an “actuarial” degree option
 - Plan to work with College of Business to offer internship opportunities
 - Math has developed some specialized courses to be used for the major; these will also be needed for the certificate
 - Having the certificate on a graduate's transcript will mean something to potential employers
 - ? K. Zunkel/S. Hendrick: certain grade minima and GPA restrictions need to be evaluated by Academic Standards and Admissions Committee – they will need a good rationale for these limits.
 - ? S. Hendrick: minimum credit requirements seem significantly greater than university minimum – could a Math/Stat major achieve the certificate with 9 additional credits. *Yes, but obtaining the certificate does entail additional work beyond the major. Math majors are able to fulfill approximately one-half of the needed pre-requisites, and 40%-50% of math majors are double majors.*
 - S. Hendrick moved; C. Schwab seconded approval of Certificate Proposal
 - ? C. Schwab: is there a vision for students with degrees returning or coming from other institutions to obtain the certificate? *Math has a well-established system for assessing and advising entering students regarding satisfying pre-requisites; there is no immediate plan to offer any required courses on-line; expectation that a student would need to be on campus some days each week, some course(s) may be offered during evening hours.*
- Approved by FSCC: 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- US Diversity/International Perspectives Review Policies by Outcomes Assessment Committee
 - G. Miller: Of 189 USD courses, 136 are in LAS (cross-listings would lower this number); of 395 IP courses, 284 are in LAS; the proposed review policies would place significant burden on college curriculum committees; policies (like these) should address clear problems and not “penalize” courses/instructors that/who are following the USD/IP guidelines in their courses; suggested that since this issue is more of a “review of course assessment and outcomes”, that the Outcomes Assessment Committee should be responsible for the review.

- K. Zunkel/C. Schwab: the issue initiated from student concern that current USD/IP courses did not meet their expectations for diversity; students proposed a single course that would be more discussion-based emphasizing topics of inclusion and diversity, but this proposal did not go forward; there are relatively few courses used by students to satisfy these requirements; many of these are also involved with CIP – perhaps there is some way to achieve an evaluation via this mechanism?
- C. Schwab: what mechanisms are in place to evaluate whether USD/IP courses are achieving the outcomes set forth in the USD/IP proposal forms? K. Zunkel: survey sent to students near graduation indicate that responses concerning USD/IP course experiences receive lower values than other areas.

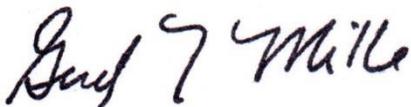
Action:

- More discussion needs to happen.
 - Proposed revised policy needs to be further edited; some members of FSCC are willing to meet with Outcomes and Assessment Committee members to discuss review policies
 - K. Zunkel and J. Keitges will work to identify the primary courses used by students to fulfill these requirements.
- Discontinuation Form for Minors, Certificates, Graduate Specializations
The form is completed and needs to be posted, with Sherri Angstrom's assistance, which can then be disseminated.
 - Learning Outcomes (K. Zunkel)
Results of HLC evaluation a few years ago led to a statement to articulate the expectation that a course, regardless of delivery or instructor, must be certain, standard outcomes expectations in line with the catalog course description. A statement was drafted, but where should this document, or its intent, be included? Is it a catalog item? Faculty handbook?
 - S. Hendrick: This is an important questions. Any learning outcomes statement should be a part of the Faculty Handbook; both Outcomes and Assessment Committee and FSCC should engage in a discussion.

No action was suggested at this point.

- State of Iowa: Next Generation Science Standards for K-12 (K. Zunkel)
Students graduating from Iowa high schools in the near future will no longer have traditional Biology, Chemistry, Physics as science-based courses, but will have Science, which integrates topics across many disciplines. This will have a significant impact on admissions but also on frontier science courses due to a shift in how students have received a science education (in middle/high school) to this point and how students will perceive these courses as first-year students.

Respectfully submitted,



Gordie Miller

1-December-2017