

University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes
Meeting Subtitles: “The Triumphant Return of Mike Darre” or
“Exchanging Salty Language over Some Fishy Revisions to a Marine Science Course”
12:30pm Wednesday, 20 January, 2016
Senate Conference Room

I. **Opening business**

- A. Meeting called to order at 12:32pm
- B. Welcome
- C. Regrets:
- D. Minutes of 1 December meeting were approved by eVote
- E. We will next meet 3 February

II. **Report of the Chair/Representative**

- A. University Senate (P. Bedore) – GEOC chair nominations were sought by 12/15 to Cheryl Galli. Storrs has a new television studio available 24/7 for us to do more media; it’s run by a remote firm for a modest subscription fee. The consent agenda passed without discussion.
- B. Senate Executive (P. Bedore) – The committee will meet on Friday, 1/22, to plan the next Senate meeting on Monday, 2/1. Senate C&C will do electronic approval of today’s minutes in preparation.
- C. GEOC (P. Bedore) – The committee will meet on Wednesday, 2/3.
- D. Gen Ed Assessment Task Force (P. Bedore) – The taskforce has met several times and is planning surveys and focus groups for the spring semester. It is conducting a study of peer and aspirant institutions, and preliminary findings suggest that UConn’s Gen Ed curriculum is largely within the standards of these two groups. More information to follow. K. Piantek related some news about emails she received from students in December giving feedback about general education at UConn.
- E. UICC (P. Bedore) – Eric Donkor appreciated participating in the workflow testing process and thinks the new form is very good. He expects UICC to join the workflow. Spring 2016 will include a review of the UNIV course alignment. Hedley Freake presented on a Global Studies major as an FYI.
- F. Curriculum Advisory (“Workflow”) group (E. Schultz) – E. Schultz collected comments on the system and submitted them to Jason Card in UITS recently. In order to make the form useful

for CLAS, subgroups of the content areas need to be included. E. Schultz said he would need to track down guidelines related to these. The initiative to add “hovertext” to the form highlighted how out-of-date some guidelines were. Many revisions will need to wait until the Gen Ed Task Force finishes its review, however.

III. **Other committee reports**

A. Growth and Development Committee (S. Wilson) – The committee met with Peter Diplock who gave the group an overview of changes in CETL; for one, they are trying to put supports in place for doctoral students who are given teaching assignments. This plan spurred an impassioned discussion about resources and responsibilities.

B. Diversity (M. A. O’Donoghue) – The group met Dec. 8 and passed proposed update language to the by-laws that includes wording on diversity. The committee also drafted a response to the Diversity Task Force report. It proposed the creation of a diversity council; creation of a mentoring program; expanding diversity fundraising; and perhaps adjusting the name of the Office of Diversity to the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Justice. (Note: It was unclear if this revised name will actually include an Oxford comma, but one is included here based on Senate C&C best-practices. It is hoped that officially recording the comma here will encourage its use for the name of the office in the future.) S. Nunnally, who is on the Diversity Task Force, asked about passing these ideas on to the task force co-chairs, and there was some discussion about the timeline and the chain of information.

C. Standing Honors Board (D. Hanink) – The designation of “Honors Core” in the title of courses was discussed at the meeting. The practice has been less frequent in recent years because Honors versions of courses may not always be offered in a particular semester. G. McManus expressed concern that courses could be offered as non-honors with “honors” in the title.

D. Scholastic Standards (E. Schultz) – The committee has not yet met.

IV. **Old Business**

A. New S/U graded courses:

1. Motion to add (M. Darre, M. Buck) PLSC 3081 Internship Experience

Note: This course was tabled pending the exploration of grading/credits options and consultation with Summer Programs. The list of concerns was addressed for the meeting.

Proposed Catalog Copy

PLSC 3081. Summer Internship Experience

Zero credit. Hours by arrangement. Must be followed by PLSC 3990.

Consent of instructor required. Students taking this course will be assigned a grade of S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory). May be repeated.

Provides opportunity for students to gain practical experience, knowledge, and professional skills in a work environment related to employment and careers in plant science or landscape architecture. Students work with instructor and internship supervisor to develop a learning contract and plan of work to ensure meaningful and educational tasks and experiences.

Discussion

- M. Darre gave a recap of the course and explained steps he took to address the Senate C&C's concerns.
- Summer Programs did not have an issue with the way the course was proposed.
- M. Buck confirmed that the non-credit course cannot be removed from the transcript once it is on there. There are several options for grading to ensure the second part of the course (PLSC 3990) is taken following the semester, including changing the grade from S to U in the non-credit version, or assigning an Incomplete.
- S. Nunnally wanted to clarify the benefit of the course to students. M. Darre explained that this is an official internship with learning objectives, as opposed to simply a summer job.
- K. Labadorf asked if there were rules about being paid for a zero-credit internship. No, students can be paid for a zero-credit internship.
- M. Darre noted that this will encourage diversity for the internship experience because a greater range of students will be able to afford it.

Motion to add (PLSC 3081) approved unanimously.

V. **New Business**

A. Add 1000- or 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to add (K. Labadorf, S. Nunnally) HIST 1250 Sports in History

Proposed Catalog Copy

HIST 1250. Sports in History

Three credits. The sports played and watched around the world from ancient Greece to the present; the meanings of athletic performance and spectacle.

Discussion

- The committee did some wordsmithing of the course description.
- S. Nunnally expressed concern about the claim in the request that the course would not address politics, race, gender, etc, when – based on the syllabus – it clearly does seem to address them. The course is also proposed for CA1, and it would seem that coverage of these issue might be integral to receiving the CA1

designation. P. Bedore will convey the committee's concern to both the proposer and the GEOC Chair.

- M. Darre noted the need for a better grading scale in the syllabus.

Motion to add (HIST 1250) approved unanimously.

2. Motion to add (M. Darre, M. Buck) MAST 1993 Foreign Study

Proposed Catalog Copy

MAST 1993. International Study

Credits and hours by arrangement. Consent of program coordinator required, normally to be granted before the student's departure. May be repeated for credit. Coursework completed while abroad.

Discussion

- G. McManus questioned the use of the term "department head" in the description since the appropriate person is a program coordinator. Changes were made to the course description to reflect this.
- E. Schultz suggested changing the title to "International Study" since "Foreign" is a somewhat outdated term that the university is moving away from using. P. Bedore will check with the proposer to be sure this is acceptable.
- Additional wording was added to the description to clarify logistics.

Motion to add (MAST 1993) approved unanimously.

3. Motion to add (M. Darre, M.A. O'Donoghue) MAST 2993 Foreign Study

Proposed Catalog Copy

MAST 2993. International Study

Credits and hours by arrangement. Consent of program coordinator required, normally to be granted before the student's departure.

May be repeated for credit. May count toward major with consent of advisor and program coordinator. Coursework completed while abroad.

Discussion

- The same adjustments were made to the course title and description as for the MAST 1993.
- There was some discussion of including the wording related to using the course as part of a major. The wording was kept with the addition of "and program coordinator." It was questioned if "advisor" should be "department head." P. Bedore will check with the proposer about this.

Motion to add (MAST 2993) approved unanimously.

B. Revise 1000- or 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to revise (M.A. O'Donoghue, S. Wilson) MARN 2002 Coastal Systems Science I (Title change)

Current Catalog Copy

MARN 2002. Coastal Systems Science I

Second semester (Avery Point). Three credits. Prerequisite: MARN 1002 or 1003; MATH 1110Q or 1071Q or 1131Q; BIOL 1107 and 1108; CHEM 1127Q and 1128Q; and PHYS 1201Q or 1401Q.

Biological, chemical, physical, and geological structure and function of coastal systems; a worldwide survey with emphasis on important coastal habitats and processes.

Revised Catalog Copy

MARN 2002. Marine Sciences I

Second semester (Avery Point). Three credits. Prerequisite: MARN 1002 or 1003; MATH 1110Q or 1071Q or 1131Q; BIOL 1107 and 1108; CHEM 1127Q and 1128Q; and PHYS 1201Q or 1401Q.

Biological, chemical, physical, and geological structure and function of coastal systems; a worldwide survey with emphasis on important coastal habitats and processes.

Discussion

- E. Schultz expressed confusion over the requested title change. He felt that the description was moving away from the content of the course. G. McManus said that he believed the change was primarily a move towards rebranding.
- The syllabus needs policies and a grading conversion scale.

Motion to revise (MARN 2002) approved with one nay vote.

2. Motion to revise (M. Buck, M. Darre) NRE 2215 Introduction to Water Resources (Course description on field trips)

Current Catalog Copy

NRE 2215. Introduction to Water Resources

(Formerly offered as NRE 3218 and as NRME 3218.) Three credits. Three class periods and two field trips. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: NRE 1000 and GSCI 1050. Robbins

Introduction to surface and ground water resource assessment, development and management. Integration of scientific, legal, environmental and human factors that enter into developing and maintaining sustainable water resources. Examines current and future plight of water shortages and water quality issues here and abroad.

Revised Catalog Copy

NRE 2215. Introduction to Water Resources

(Formerly offered as NRE 3218 and as NRME 3218.) Three credits. Three class periods and two field trips (two virtual field trips if taken online). Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: NRE 1000 and GSCI 1050. Robbins Introduction to surface and ground water resource assessment, development and management. Integration of scientific, legal, environmental and human factors that enter into developing and maintaining sustainable water resources. Examines current and future plight of water shortages and water quality issues here and abroad.

Discussion

- E. Schultz expressed concern with the idea of a virtual field trip. S. Wilson noted that other schools have done similar with great success.
- The committee took a virtual vote on the course.

Motion to revise (NRE 2215) approved with one nay vote.

C. Add 3000- or 4000-level W courses:

1. Motion to add (E. Schultz, M. Buck) HEJS 3218W/CAMS 3265W/HIST 3330W Palestine under the Greeks and Romans

Proposed Catalog Copy

HEJS 3218W. Palestine Under the Greeks and Romans
(Also offered as CAMS 3256W and HIST 3330W.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. CAMS 1101 or 1102 or CAMS 3253/HIST 3301 or HIST 3320 or 3325 or INTD 3260 or HEJS 1103 or HEJS 3202 or instructor consent; open to juniors or higher. Taught in English. May not be used to meet the foreign language requirement. Miller The political, historical and religious currents in Greco-Roman Palestine. Includes the Jewish Revolts; sectarian developments, the rise of Christianity and the Talmudic academies.

Discussion

- P. Bedore gave an overview of the course history. Senate C&C has seen the course before, but it was discovered to have by-passed CLAS accidentally. It has now gotten approval.
- The syllabus needs a better grading scale.
- The W pre-reqs were added to the description.

Motion to add (HEJS 3218W/CAMS 3265W/HIST 3330W) approved unanimously.

Attendees: Pamela Bedore (Chair), Eric Schultz, Dean Hanink, Kathy Labadorf, Marianne Buck, Maria Ana O'Donoghue, Suzanne Wilson, Shayla Nunnally, Mike Darre, George McManus

Respectfully Submitted: Karen Piantek