

## University Senate Curricula and Courses Committee Minutes

Meeting Subtitles: “Rickrolled by Brittany Spears” or “If Facebook and LinkedIn Had a Baby”

9:00am Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Senate Conference Room

### I. Opening business

- A. Called to order: 9:02am
- B. Regrets: G. Stuart, M. Bradford, A. Appiah
- C. Minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.
- D. We will next meet November 7, 2018.

### II. Report of the Chair/Representative

- A. University Senate (P. Bedore) – At the 9/17/2018 Senate meeting, EEB 2222 was pulled from the consent agenda and returned to committee. P. Bedore met with members of EEB (Paul Lewis, Eric Schultz, and Jeffrey Seemann) and of SPSS (Mark Brand and Gerry Berkowitz) on 10/23/2018 to discuss EEB 2222 as well as any other courses that may have considerable overlap. Three courses were discussed. EEB 2222 (with revised catalog copy) was examined and found to differ enough from SPSS courses that it needed no course restriction. EEB 2250 was found to differ from 4210 in level and approach, and all agreed students could benefit from taking both courses. SPSS 3995 Special Topics: Horticulture of Cannabis: From Seed to Harvest was flagged as a course that will be proposed with a permanent number at the 2000 level. EEB members did not anticipate issues of overlap. Moving forward, it was decided that the CLAS C&C and CAHNR C&C representatives will contact each other whenever courses with possible overlap are identified so that catalog copy and syllabi can be shared. P. Bedore added that she asked CLAS C&C members if anyone wanted to form a subcommittee to review issues of course overlap, and she had four volunteers.
- B. Senate Executive (P. Bedore) – The committee will meet with subcommittee chairs on Friday to plan the 11/5 Senate meeting.
- C. GEOC (E. Schultz) – E. Schultz sent a memo to the Second Language co-chairs that the co-chairs will use to reach out to programs that teach Second Language courses. The purpose of the memo is to urge programs that offer Second Language courses to work toward developing a clear and measurable set of goals and learning objectives that we would expect students to be able to achieve at the end of two semesters. Currently the bar is set very low, as students only have to pass two elementary-level Second Language courses.
- D. UICC (M. Hatfield) – Has not met.

### III. Other Committee Reports

- A. Honors Board of Associate Directors (K. McDermott) – The committee met and reviewed two more Honors Core course proposals, one of which may eventually attempt to seek both CA2 and CA3 Gen Ed designations. The new Portfolium online portfolio platform was also demonstrated. Honors students will use this platform to track their extracurricular Honors requirements. Honors has its largest class ever this year with 544 students.
- B. Scholastic Standards (L. Schlesselman) – Has not met.
- C. ΔGE Working Group (E. Schultz) – The committee looked at a document from the Goals subgroup. While they liked the language of the write-up, there was general agreement that what is presented to audiences should focus on “punchy phrases” that immediately convey our point. The message will also contain different language for students and faculty. A report by the Communication subgroup noted that we really need to talk, not about Gen Ed specifically, but about the overall purpose of a UConn education. The Structure subgroup has narrowed their proposals down to two models. The idea of inviting GEOC members to come talk to the group was pitched, and GEOC has since been invited. E. Schultz is also meeting with John Volin tomorrow to provide updates.

#### IV. Old Business

- A. New 1000- and 2000-level courses:

- 1. Motion to add (E. Schultz, M. Brand) EEB 2250 Introduction to Plant Physiology (#7189)  
*Note: EEB 2250 was tabled pending discussion of potential overlap with SPSS courses. Parties met this week and updates were provided.*

##### *Proposed Catalog Copy*

EEB 2250. Introduction to Plant Physiology

Three credits. Prerequisite: BIOL 1107 or BIOL 1108 or BIOL 1110.

The unique physiological processes of plants that underlie their capacity to grow, develop, and sense and respond to the environment. Topics include photosynthesis, water and nutrient uptake, long distance transport, signals and signal transduction, growth and development, and environmental interactions (biotic and abiotic).

##### *Discussion*

- There was discussion of whether to include the offering semester in the catalog copy or not. Typically we have removed them.
- M. Hatfield suggested that from the Registrar’s perspective this information is helpful because they input it into PeopleSoft, but it does not need to be in the catalog copy. One alternative is to add a field to the CAR form for the Registrar’s reference. E. Schultz will email Jason Card in ITS about this.

- One member suggested that from an advising perspective, having the semester listed is helpful. Other members argued that there is too much potential for the information to be inaccurate based on the leeway that departments have to change their offerings.
- The student learning objectives could be stronger. P. Bedore will forward a draft of language about writing learning objectives that will soon be available on the CETL website.

**Motion to add EEB 2250 (#7189) approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (E. Schultz, M. Brand) EEB 2222 Plants in a Changing World (#4856)  
*Proposed Catalog Copy*  
EEB 2222. Plants in a Changing World  
Three credits. The central role of plants in mediating impending environmental changes. Topics are considered from an ecological and evolutionary perspective. These include rising CO<sub>2</sub>, changing temperature and rainfall patterns, phenology, pollinator declines, agriculture and food security, genetically modified organisms, biofuels, bioprospecting, and invasive species.

*Discussion*

- The student learning objectives could be stronger. P. Bedore will forward a draft of language about writing learning objectives that will soon be available on the CETL website.
- The expectations and assessments on the sample syllabus do not always match.
- Members felt this could be a great Environmental Literacy course. The proposer will be nudged to consider it.

**Motion to add EEB 2222 (#4856) approved unanimously.**

3. Motion to untable (J. Chandy, D. Ouimette) AIRF 2000 Air Force Studies IIa (#6549) [Revise course number, title, and description]  
*Note: AIRF 2000 was tabled pending consultation with the proposers about why the courses are listed together, differences in the workload for cadets and non-cadets, and the overall credit load. Updates were provided by AIRF.*

*Discussion*

- Edits were previously made to streamline the catalog copy.
- AIRF responded to our inquiries, but Senate C&C members still had concerns. The committee felt that recommended preparation language needed to be included if the courses are connected. Members also generally felt the courses should be listed separately if this was the case.
- It was suggested that the lab should be listed as a required co-requisite to the class, in which case we would need another CAR from AIRF. If the lab is given another

credit, this will potentially add two credits to the AIRF curriculum. It was later suggested that the lab could be a zero-credit add-on instead.

- There was some discussion of whether the leadership lab should be required for non-cadets. Looking at the units, it was felt that they were very specific to AIRF cadets and not relevant to non-cadets.
- It was suggested that a representative from AIRF should come to our next meeting. P. Bedore will invite the proposer.

**D. Burkey motioned to table AIRF 2000 pending further consultation with AIRF. K. Fuller seconded. Motion to table was approved unanimously.**

4. AIRF 2200 Air Force Studies IIb (#6550) [Revise course number, title, and description]  
*Note: AIRF 2200 was not considered due to the same concerns as AIRF 2000.*

B. The University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee recommends revision of the following 3000- and 4000-level courses:

1. AIRF 3000-3200 Air Force Studies III (#6551) [Revise course title and description]  
*Note: AIRF 3000-3200 was not considered due to the same concerns as AIRF 2000.*
2. AIRF 4000-4200 Air Force Studies IV (#6552) [Revise course title and description]  
*Note: AIRF 4000-4200 was not considered due to the same concerns as AIRF 2000.*

C. The University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee recommends addition of the following 3000- or 4000-level courses:

1. UNIV 3080 SSS Peer Mentor Leadership Development Course (#6389)  
*Note: UNIV 3080 was tabled pending more info about course credits and clarification in the description about peer mentoring. P. Bedore met with the proposer, but there are no updates at this time.*

## V. New Business

A. Other Business (*Guest Carol Atkinson-Palombo*)

*Note: The following documents were approved by GEOC via eVote this week.*

1. Motion to accept (E. Schultz, D. Ouimette) Motion to Implement Environmental Literacy\_2

### *Discussion*

- The committee reviewed the language document.
- In response to one member's inquiry, it was noted that this will potentially go into effect next catalog year. There is no guarantee that we will have the capacity to enact this, but that was not our concern. We were told to find a way to implement it. Once passed, it is up to the administration to make sure it is properly resourced and up to the faculty to propose courses.

- The Environmental Literacy Task Force looked at students who did not typically take an environmental course during their time at UConn. Engineering, Nursing, and Business students were the bulk of the students who did not take environmental courses, although it was noted that these are disciplines where study of the environment might be especially important.

**Motion to accept the Motion to Implement Environmental Literacy\_2 approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to accept (E. Schultz, J. Chandy) Revisions to Senate Rules and Regs II.C.2 2018\_amended for EL\_3

*Discussion*

- E. Schultz provided an overview of the document. It represents slight revisions to a previously approved document. He noticed one area where there was an omitted bit of strikeout text in the R&R piece, so this was edited.
- There was some question about whether “one course of three credits” needs to be specified or whether students could piece together one- and two-credit courses if desired. It was generally felt that in practice, one- or two-credit courses would be a hard sell to students, so student would be unlikely to pursue such a route.
- One member asked about Service Learning courses. These are not currently a required part of the Gen Ed curriculum, but that could be a good conversation for the Delta Gen Ed group.

**Motion to accept the Revisions to Senate Rules and Regs II.C.2 2018\_amended for EL\_3 approved unanimously.**

B. New 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to add (D. Ouimette, D. Burkey) PERS 1104 Intermediate Persian II (#8637)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

PERS 1104. Intermediate Persian II

Four credits. Prerequisite: PERS 1103 or equivalent.

Further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Persian within a cultural setting. Readings to enhance cultural awareness of the Persian-speaking world.

*Discussion*

- The “Continuation of PERS 1103” language was removed as superfluous.

**Motion to add PERS 1104 (#8637) approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (M. Brand, D. Ouimette) SPSS 1115 Turfgrass Management Lab (#8356)

*Proposed Catalog Copy*

**SPSS 1115. Turfgrass Management Lab**

One credit. One 2-hour laboratory period. Taught with SAPL 115. Prerequisite or corequisite SPSS 1100. Rackliffe.

Grass establishment, grass identification, athletic field turfgrass playability evaluations, soil testing, turfgrass pest identification, turfgrass pest monitoring techniques, and fertilizer spreader and sprayer calibration.

*Discussion*

- The student learning objectives could be stronger. P. Bedore will forward a draft of language about writing learning objectives that will soon be available on the CETL website.

**Motion to add SPSS 1115 (#8356) approved unanimously.**

C. Revised 1000- and 2000-level courses:

1. Motion to revise (M. Brand, E. Schultz) SPSS 1100 Turfgrass Management (#8738) [Revise class structure]

*Current Catalog Copy*

**SPSS 1100. Turfgrass Management**

Three credits. Two class periods and one 2 hour- laboratory. Taught with SAPL 110.

An overview of turfgrass adaptation, selection, and management. Topics include turfgrass growth, physiology, soil interactions, weeds and diseases, morphology and identification, establishment, and maintenance. Cultural system practices for lawns, golf courses, athletic fields, and other turf areas.

*Revised Catalog Copy*

**SPSS 1100. Turfgrass Management**

Three credits. Taught with SAPL 110. Rackliffe.

An overview of turfgrass adaptation, selection, and management. Topics include turfgrass growth, physiology, soil interactions, establishment, and maintenance. Cultural system practices for lawns, golf courses, athletic fields, and other turf areas. Turfgrass pest management practices for weeds, insects, and diseases.

*Discussion*

- Minor adjustments were made to the catalog copy: the addition of an oxford comma, and the removal of language regarding class periods.

**Motion to revise SPSS 1100 (#8738) approved unanimously.**

- D. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends inclusion of the following courses in Content Area 2 – Social Sciences:

*Note: The following courses were approved by GEOC for CA2 on 2/3/16 but were never put on the Senate C&C agenda for that designation.*

1. Motion to add (E. Schultz, D. Burkey) POLS 3023/W Politics and Literature (No # - Old CAR)

*Discussion*

- A grading scale is needed in the syllabus.
- The student learning objectives could be stronger. P. Bedore will forward a draft of language about writing learning objectives that will soon be available on the CETL website.
- A rubric on how participation is assessed would be helpful.

**Motion to add POLS 3023/W (No #) approved unanimously.**

2. Motion to add (D. Burkey, J. Chandy) POLS 3250/W The Political Economy of East Asia (No # - Old CAR)

*Discussion*

- The F Clause appears to be missing from the syllabus. P. Bedore will contact the proposer to be sure that the F Clause is in the syllabus.

**Motion to add POLS 3250/W (No #) approved unanimously.**

- E. The General Education Oversight Committee recommends inclusion of the following course in Content Area 3 – Science & Technology, non-Lab:

1. Motion to add (E. Schultz, M. Brand) EEB 2222 Plants in a Changing World (#4856)

*Discussion*

- No discussion.

**Motion to add EEB 2222 (#4856) approved unanimously.**

Attendance (in bold): **Pam Bedore (Chair)**, Michael Bradford, **Daniel Burkey**, **John Chandy**, **David Ouimette**, **Eric Schultz**, **Mark Brand**, **Marcus Hatfield**, Michael Ego, **Kate Fuller**, **Lauren Schlesselman** (Ex-Officio), Gina Stuart, Ama Appiah (student rep)

Respectfully submitted by Karen C. P. McDermott  
Adjourned 10:28am