

Committee on Curriculum
April 30, 2015
1:00 p.m., 254 Baker
Meeting Minutes

Voting Members present: Bujanovic, Cohen, Daley, Dibble, Donaghy, Kyanka, Shannon (for Wheeler), Verostek, Wagner, Whitmore

Guests and others Present: Fischer, Johnston, Minard (for Rutkowski), Newman (Barbara), Newman (Lee), Sanford, Thompson

Unable to attend: Margolis, Vanucchi

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 1:03pm
2. **Approval of Minutes from April 1.** The minutes from the April 1 meeting were approved by popular acclamation
3. **Announcements**
 - a. Proposals posted for CoC and faculty review: There were no proposals submitted for CoC and faculty review.
 - b. Proposals submitted for CoC completeness review: There were no proposals submitted for CoC completeness review.
 - c. Administrative approvals by the Dean. There were no administrative approvals by the Dean.

4. Updates from the Dean (Shannon)

There were no updates from the Dean.

5. Old Business:

- a. xxxx96 generic course descriptions. No progress.
- b. Study Abroad course. No progress.
- c. Minor Enrollment Form. No progress.
- d. Guidance document for differentiation between course levels. No progress
- e. Discussion of EFB/GSA shared resource surveys. Cohen has compiled the results of the EFB survey and the faculty has discussed them. He will forward the compiled results to the Committee before the next meeting.

6. New Business:

- a. Proposals for action:
 - EHS 480 Hazardous Waste Management
 - EHS 680 Hazardous Waste Management

The title of these proposals has been changed due to comments received. Whitmore noted that on learning outcome number 8 there is an awkward wording and suggested that the words "Be able to" should be deleted. The proposer, who was present, agreed to this change and Newman

was authorized to make the revision in the final document. The proposals EHS 480 and EHS 680 were unanimously approved with no further discussion.

- ERE 440 Water and Wastewater Treatment
- ERE 640 Water and Wastewater Treatment

There had been comments during the review period, and the proposer had made revisions satisfactory to the commenters. ERE 440 and ERE 640 were unanimously approved with no further discussion.

- GNE 271 Statics

Bujanovic noted that Statics is possibly still a course taken by PBE students. The introduction of this new course is an attempt to separate Statics and Dynamics. There were no further comments. GNE 271 was approved with no further discussion.

- ERE 380 Energy Systems Engineering

Daley reported that this new course in the ERE program is partially a response to external program reviews. ERE will eventually be dropping its thermodynamics course. The Committee agreed that the learning outcomes required a slight change – by deleting the word “Ability” at the beginning of each outcome. Newman was authorized to do so. ERE 380 was approved with no further discussion.

- ERE 480 Fate and Transport of Contaminants in Environmental Systems

Comments had been made and had been satisfactorily addressed by the proposer. With no further comments or discussion emanating from the Committee, ERE 480 was approved unanimously.

- ERE 340 Engineering Hydrology and Hydraulics
- ERE 540 Engineering Hydrology and Hydraulics

Dibble had made comments during the review period and indicated he was satisfied with the response. There was some discussion regarding the catalog descriptions. Referencing ERE 540 in the ERE 340 catalog description was determined to be irrelevant and superfluous. With regard to the catalog description of ERE 340, Newman was asked to strike the last sentence. Daley recommended that the catalog description of ERE 540 should read something like “ERE 540 requires problem sets and exercises and a research project report.” Since ERE 540 does not include a lab, all references to a lab (instructional methods, etc.) should be removed. ERE 340 and ERE 540 were approved with these minor revisions, to be completed by Newman and reviewed by Daley.

- ERE 275 Ecological Engineering
- ERE 132 Introduction to Environmental Resources Engineering
- ERE 371 Surveying for Engineers

There were no comments from the Committee on ERE 275. Wagner expressed some confusion on whether ERE 132 was a lecture or lab course. Daley clarified that the faculty approval was for one three-hour lab per week. Since this is an orientation class, the structure needs to be flexible. In Section 4 (staffing needs) of ERE 132 Newman was directed to strike the words “for lecture.” Daley explained that ERE 371 was revised to drop a credit. This is a service course for Construction Management. There were no further comments on ERE 275, ERE 132 or ERE 371. All three courses were approved after minor revisions by Newman.

- ERE 468 Solid and Hazardous Waste Engineering
- ERE 568 Solid and Hazardous Waste Engineering

Daley explained that the revision to ERE 468 was to add content regarding hazardous waste. This addition was driven by ABET. The addition of new course ERE 568 is in response to demand from graduate students, who wanted a course in solid and hazardous waste engineering. Shannon noted that the norm is to have a 4**/6** split, and not a 4**/5** split. This is a local (i.e. not SUNY) policy. Daley explained that the graduate course is a beginner course for graduate students with little or no background in the subject. Shannon pointed out that an undergraduate student can take the class at either level, and Daley noted that if the 500 level is taken as part of the undergraduate program it cannot be counted as part of a subsequent ESF graduate program. Shannon countered that with some accelerated programs this may in fact be possible. Daley stated that the ERE 568 is designed more for non-ERE graduate students. Bujanovic asked how it would be determined who would take the 468 class and who the 568 class. Several members of the Committee pointed out that this did not have to be specified in the course proposal – it is more appropriately spelled out at the department level. It is an advising issue. ERE 468 and ERE 568 were approved with no further discussion.

- FOR 458 Advanced Topics in GIS
- FOR 659 Advanced GIS

These revisions have been submitted in order to split a shared resource course. The concepts are identical, but learning outcomes are different. Donaghy noted in section 3.2.2.d there should be a mention of the (formerly) shared resource course. Newman was directed to make this change. Cohen noted that the Provost approval of resources was subject to sufficient students registering for the class. Shannon clarified that the class can be taught if enrollment will pay for the instructor. FOR 458 and FOR 659 were approved with no further discussion.

- APM 115 Essential Calculus

This is a new course to fulfil the needs of the Construction Management program. The proposer, who was present, stated that the campus did not have a course that covered both differential and integral calculus. Although it is a required course for Construction Management students, other students from other departments are welcome to take it. There being no further comments, APM 115 was approved.

- LA BLA curriculum revision
- LSA 497 Contemporary Issues in Landscape Architecture

Changes suggested at the last Committee meeting had been incorporated into the curriculum revision, and a new course proposed. There had been no comments during the review period. Whitmore was of the opinion that in section 2.1 of the course proposal the wording “BLA graduates” is awkward. Daley suggested that this wording set the context for the course, which Whitmore agreed made sense. Cohen asked how similar LSA 697 was. The proposer, who was present, stated that LSA 497 and LSA 697 presented similar material, but at a different level. There being no further comments, both the LA BLA curriculum revision and LSA 497 were approved.

b. Other business.

Daley stated that he will not be continuing as a member of the Committee and that there will therefore be need for a new Chair. Continuing members will be Dibble, Bujanovic, Wagner, Whitmore and Cohen. Faculty Governance has asked for a new Chair of the Committee,

preferably in place by May 12. There was extensive discussion about the faculty obligations for service, effect on promotion & tenure, and incentives to take on additional service responsibilities. The new membership entering in the next AY may yield a Chair. Shannon pointed out that new staff support will be available to the Committee next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.

As this was the last meeting of the 2014-2015 academic year, the next meeting date has not yet been set.

Action items for next cycle:

- Newman to make various changes to proposals.
- work on xxxx96 generic course descriptions.
- work on creating a generic Study Abroad course.
- Donaghy to provide Daley with a list of Committee members for the 2015-2016 year