

## COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

4 March 2013

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Doug Daley, Kelley Donaghy, John Hassett, S. Shannon (for President Murphy), William Smith, John Wagner, Chris Whipps, Benette Whitmore

**Others in Attendance:** Steve Balogh, Mary Chandler, Paul Hai, Sue Sanford, Theresa Selfa, Suzette Vandeburg.

The meeting began the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

Approval of previous meeting minutes from January 9, 2013. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Tentative April meeting: April 15, 3:30- 5:00 p.m. S. Vandeburg to send e-mail to confirm.

#### Course Proposals:

- **Environmental Science B.S. Curriculum Proposal Adjustments -**  
Environmental Science submitted a curriculum proposal to reduce the requirement for research credits from 4 to 3 credit hours, with total reduction in total credits from 127 to 126. However, the current catalog description states 125 credits are necessary for the degree. Send back to ES for clarification on the total credits. J. Hassett moved to send back to ES. The motion to send back to the department was unanimously approved.
- **GPES MPS/MS Curriculum Proposal -** to reduce MPS degree requirements from 39 to 30 credits, reduce the number of required distributional courses, and eliminate option of credit for professional experience. The proposal is also requiring a MS degree for admission into the Environmental and Natural Resources Policy PhD. It was noted there are many catalog description changes to other sections besides MPS. J. Hassett suggested approving proposed curriculum changes. The motion was approved unanimously.
- **EST 202 - American History from Discovery to Civil War** to be offered online in the summer. Funding model is different in the summer from that during the academic year. J. Wagner had several questions: no mention how it relates to existing courses or how it relates to FOR 203 or FOR 204. There are two other courses that cover similar things. S. Shannon indicated it does not relate to FOR 203 or FOR 204 so no reference is necessary. "Understand" is not an outcome. Outcomes 3a and 4 are not measurable, and there are two "outcome" #3s. It does satisfy the general education Requirement for American History. What is the difference between this new course and the other established course? Can a student get credit for both? Theoretically, they could get credit for both. One is looking at environmental aspects and the other is looking at understanding United States History in a broad sweep. Remove "if space allows" under 2a in the scope. It does not make clear how films, text books, class discussions, etc. are being administered online. Can course be delivered by any instructor or does it need to be delivered by a specific person? Need to include "summer offering" in detailed course description. The last sentence of methodology where it states "force students to evaluate..." needs to be reworded. D. Daley to give comments to V. Luzadis. A question also arose regarding the Bandwidth to offer the course. While CoC approved the content of the course, it goes back to Environmental Studies for revisions. Also, need clarification that EST 393 is to be removed.

- **EST 395 - Public Communication of Science & Technology** – Health & Safety considerations need to be filled in. Learning Outcomes #3 “Appreciate” is not an outcome. It is also necessary to note it’s replacing EST 393. It satisfies the social science general education requirement. D. Daley Move to accept with minor edits. CoC approved unanimously. D. Daley and K. Donaghy to approve the edits.
- **EST 401 - Environmental Ethics and Culture, Perspectives on the Adirondack Park** - Missing Health & Safety considerations. Must address #7 and #8. No need to note location. Newcomb campus in overall description. Just include in the catalog description. Under “Learning Outcomes,” Scope- 2a and 2b are redundant. In terms of pre –requisites, students must be enrolled in the program, and take all five (EFB 411, EST 402, EST 401, EST 403, EST 404) courses. “Understand” is not an outcome. Change wording for clarity (Review Bloom’s Taxonomy). CoC approved subject to revisions suggested by D. Daley and J. Wagner. Also, simultaneously approved as a ~~science-general-education~~ humanities general education course. (corrected 4/8/13)
- **EST 402 - Diverse Perspectives on a Common Landscape: Experiencing the Adirondack Park** - Health & Safety considerations need to be filled in. J. Wagner noted 3-4 hours of field work per week. It currently does not rise to the level of a 3 credit class. One 3 hour lab is = 1 hour of lecture time. Generalize the description. Spell out “NGO.” Revise to reflect 3 credits. CoC passed with minor revisions.
- **EST 403 - Using Past Experience to Inform Future Management: Synthesizing the Adirondack Park** - Health & Safety considerations need to be filled in. Missing library resources. 3 hours of lecture per week is fine. Generalize the catalog description. No shared resources so indicate “none.” “Learning Outcome” #2 needs to be more generalized to be valid a year from now. Outcome #4 should be changed to “demonstrate.” CoC passed with minor revisions. D. Daley will share all his comments with P. Hai.
- **EST 404 - Sustainable Development: An Adirondack Park Case Study** - Health & Safety considerations need to be filled in. Remove “Whaley” from scope. Re-write learning outcome #3. “Understand” is not a learning outcome. Remove the pre-requisite from the course. It should be listed as a program pre-requisite. CoC accepted with minor wording revisions. Proposed as a social science general education course, but it does not meet the requirements for such. J. Wagner recommended the use of acronym SMART- specific, measureable, achievable, relevant, and time bound when making edits.

Paul Hai may come back to the 3/18 meeting with updates to each of the four courses. This program is being piloted before putting it in the catalog. It will be included in the marketing. Catalog description should reflect pre-requisites or co-requisites.

- **ES Courses to be Dropped (CMN 440, EST 628)**
- **EST 245 - Foundations of Environmental Communication** - It does not meet both general education requirements for social science and humanities. The course is being broadened. Question was raised whether the text books reflect the general education requirements. The learning outcomes need to be revised. It was a humanities course in the past. D. Daley suggested the course be sent back for further clarification regarding the general education requirements and how it meets both the humanities and social science requirements. Revise and resubmit.
- **ES Curriculum Proposal for Changes to Environment, Communication, and Society** - Change EST 245 and replace EST 393. Accept with minor revisions. ES courses need to be dropped. Motion was approved unanimously.
- **FCH 520 - Marine Biogeochemistry** - approved unanimously.

- **FCH 525 Oceanography** - APM 205/206 are listed as prerequisites, however the prerequisites should be physics 211/212. B. Whitmore suggested minor wording changes under catalog description. Order of sections out of synch. Under Outcomes, “expected” should be changed with “should be able to.” CoC approved with minor revisions that B. Whitmore will review.

The next meeting will be March 18, 2013, 3:30-5:00, 254 Baker.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Minutes prepared by S. Vandenburg