

# COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

9 October 2013

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Siddarth Chatterjee, Jonathan Cohen, John Hassett, George Kyanka, Neil Murphy, Jane Verostek, John Wagner, Benette Whitmore

**Others in Attendance:** Mary Chandler, Scott Shannon, Sue Sanford, Suzette Vandeburg, Dan Benza, Barbara Newman

The meeting began the meeting at 12:48 p. m., in 254 Baker.

Approval of previous meeting minutes from September 11, 2013. Minutes were approved with minor change in the number of voting members need for a quorum from 6 to 7.

### Old Business

- FOR557 Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems – This was initially tabled regarding pre-requisite question, however, after review of the additional comments sent forth by E. Bevilacqua, the course change it was approved.
- Minor in Biophysical and Ecological Economics (BEE) – Proposal was withdrawn pending additional revisions.

### New Business

- a. Doctoral candidacy examination procedures - some candidacy exams may need to go over 2 hours. That was left flexible as there is no need to put a cap on the length of the exam. In a previous discussion, C. Whipps made a comment regarding how the outcome of the exam is relayed to the student. Sometimes details are shared and other times they are not. The committee decided it was best to leave the discretion up to the committee. The candidacy exam should express both breadth and depth, both of which should be measured during the written and oral parts. CoC recommends moving forward to Faculty Governance for vote.
- b. Course/Curriculum Review Process - new review sheet, cover sheet, detailed course description. We must be able to measure the outcomes we describe. We need to be able to measure the learning outcomes. S. Chatterjee does not want to use the SMART term. How do you measure “understanding?” “Understand” is a goal, but it is not measurable. There has to be a distinction between creating and teaching/learning. Instructors have to provide both—assessment and evaluation. We must be able to quantify what we do. There is a fear that we’re moving in the direction of teaching to the test, as opposed to teaching to learn. We must find a way for both creativity and embedded the outcomes. After much discussion over semantics related to the learning outcomes, the committee ran out of time to decide on the language to be used with learning outcomes.
- c. Committee-sponsored training with curriculum coordinators (tabled until 11/13).

Meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Minutes recorded by S. Vandeburg.