

**Committee on Curriculum
February 3, 2016
Meeting Minutes**

Voting members present: Reuter, Bujanovic, Cohen, Shannon (for Wheeler), Stavenhagen, Verostek

Guests and others present: Briggs, C'Dealva-Lenik, Newman, B., Newman, L., Mao, Sanford

Not present: Batorsky, Dibble, Donaghy, Rutkowski, Tao, Wagner

The meeting started at 1:55 pm.

Due to the time constraints of some proposers who had attended in support of their submissions to the Committee, the Proposals for Action (Agenda item 6i) were discussed first.

6) New Business

i) Proposals for action

Food Studies Minor.

Lee Newman, the proposer, addressed the fact, brought up in a comment to the Committee, that students taking this minor may exceed the number of credits they are allowed to take at SU under the accessory instruction agreement. Some other ESF majors require students to take 8 credit hours of classes at SU. If these students also want to take the Food Studies minor, which involves 15 credits at SU, they quickly exceed the hours they can enroll in at SU. Newman reported that SU is extremely supportive of this minor, and Rick Welsh, Chair of Food Studies at SU, has been charged with making it happen. Discussions are taking place at SU at the Deans' level to ensure that ESF students taking this minor would get special dispensation, and would not be charged extra for the credits if participation in the minor would put them over the limit. Sanford asked whether this would open a Pandora's Box for other minors with SU courses. Newman stated that SU actively wants to see this minor in place. From the point of view of ESF, the SU courses are required for the minor, and, if the special dispensation is not granted for Food Studies Minor students, there will be no Food Studies Minor students. Sanford suggested that the mention of 16 credits be removed from the detailed course description, since transfer students may have less than 16 credits at their disposal. Reuter asked whether there should be additional wording in the catalog description to explain the situation. Cohen asked whether students would be charged if they take one of the listed classes but not for the minor. Sanford noted that the Bursar and Registrar will need to monitor the situation and make the call. The special dispensation should be granted only to those students taking the classes as part of the Food Studies Minor. Cohen asked how this can be made clear to the students. Newman noted that, as minor coordinator, she will alert students to the situation and help them with any problems that may arise. The proposal was approved, with Briggs to make some changes to the wording of the catalog description.

FCH 610 Air Quality

Mao, the proposer, noted that she had already taught the course twice at ESF, and it fills a gap in the provision of coursework in atmospheric science at the College. C'Dealva-Lenik asked that the words "per week" be added to the end of the first sentence of the catalog description. The proposal was approved with Barbara Newman to make the required change in the catalog description.

LSA 610 – drop course

Reuter explained that this was a CAD course that had undergone some restructuring, and the content was being delivered in a new course. The department had omitted to explicitly drop LSA 610. The proposal to drop this course was approved unanimously.

2) **Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2015 meeting .** The minutes were approved unanimously.

3) **Announcements**

i) **Proposals posted for CoC and faculty review:**

Chemistry – MPS revision

Barbara Newman explained that this proposal is currently on the website for review and will finish its faculty review period on Friday, February 5. It will be up for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

ii) **Proposals submitted for CoC completeness review:**

SRE 325 (revision)

SRE 417 (new)

SRE 479 (new)

SRE 335 (revision)

SRE 419 (new)

SRE 225 (new)

FNRM Sustainable Energy Management curriculum revision

FNRM Renewable Energy Minor revision

PBE Paper/Wood Science curriculum revision

ENS Renewable Energy Option revision

FCH BS in Biochemistry (new)

Newman further explained that the above listing of proposals for completeness review was on the agenda merely to make the Committee aware of what was coming in the future. The deadline for submission of Curriculum proposals had expired on February 2. She would be reviewing the proposals for completeness before posting them on the website. The length of time from posting for review to implementation of the program is a function of the complexity of the program, whether it has to be submitted to SUNY, etc.

iii) **Recent Administrative Approvals**

Drop: 4 remaining CMN classes

Prefix change: select FOR/ENS to SRE

Dean Shannon had recently approved some proposals administratively---the above consisted of courses to be dropped from the Catalog and some prefix changes. There were some problems with the detailed course descriptions submitted for the prefix changes, but this would be sorted out shortly.

4) **Updates from the Dean**

The Dean reiterated the need for review of the upcoming curriculum proposals, and stated that this will probably take up quite a lot of time in future Committee meetings.

5) **Old Business:**

i) **Guidance document for differentiation between course levels. (Wagner, Cohen, Whitmore/Stavenhagen, Bujanovic)**

There was no progress on this issue.

ii) **Catalog updates – deleting courses (C'Dealva-Lenik)**

C'Dealva-Lenik noted that there has been quite a lot of progress in the student effort to have inactive courses deleted. He has been in touch with several Chairs and Landscape Architecture and Environmental Studies in particular have been of great help in identifying courses. Environmental Science is still working on it. PBE is hesitant to do much at present because of new curricular changes. Bujanovic asked for a list of courses that students have identified as problems. C'Dealva-Lenik agreed to send her a list. He has not yet heard from FNRM or EFB regarding removal of courses from the Catalog..

6) New Business:

ii) Other

There was no other new business to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

The next meeting of the Committee on Curriculum will take place on Wednesday, March 9, at 12:45 pm in 327 Marshall Hall

Action items:

- Briggs, on behalf of the proposer, to make some revisions in the Food Studies Minor before it is forwarded to Academic Governance.
- Newman to make revision in FCH 610 before final posting
- C'Dealva-Lenik to send Bujanovic a listing of PBE courses that the students have identified as possible candidates for dropping from the Catalog.