University Senate Curriculum Committee
February 1, 2012
12:00pm – 1:00pm
Minutes (approved 2/8/2012)

Present: Carlos Escoto (co-chair), Sarah Tasneem (co-chair), Carolyn Coates (recorder), Barbara Little Liu, Brandon Monroe, Catherine Tannahill (Jenn Huoppi was unable to attend).

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm. Minutes from the November 30, 2011 were approved.

Other reports:
The Senate Executive Committee has referred the issue of shifting three-credit courses to a four-credit format to the Academic Affairs Committee for more systematic study. The place of such shifts in the university’s overall strategic plan, the impact on transfer students, space, scheduling, financial consequences, and other feasibility issues are all under scrutiny. In light of this, all four-credit course proposals are on hold pending further guidance.

The new Board of Regents has propagated a new set of forms for major program modifications/proposals. We will continue to use our existing forms which Carlos will annotate to point to the appropriate BOR form when needed. All proposals needing approval beyond the campus level must use the new forms. Though we will not need to vet the new forms, Carlos asked that the committee become familiar with them.

Carlos will send out a campus-wide email on behalf of the committee detailing these changes and asking that asking that all proposals coming to the committee be on the electronic version of the forms on the Curriculum Committee website so that all parties involved has better archival control of their proposals. Our website has been updated.

Proposals Considered:

Environmental Earth Science Department
EES 450: Hydrological Research Methods (Drew Hyatt)
New Course Proposal
Tabled pending clarification of credit hours (the forms disagree); please note that all four-credit course proposals are on hold (the Academic Affairs Committee is studying four-credit courses).

Anthropology, Sociology and Social Work Department
SOC 300: Sociological Theory (Robert Wolf)
Changes in existing course (change credits from 3 to 4) for fall 2012
Tabled (the Academic Affairs Committee is studying issues around four-credit courses).

Anthropology, Sociology and Social Work Department
SOC 350: Methods of Social Research (Robert Wolf)
Changes in existing course (change credits from 3 to 4) for fall 2012
Tabled (the Academic Affairs Committee is studying issues around four-credit courses).
Sociology Department
SOC 400: Senior Seminar (Robert Wolf)
Changes in existing course (change credits from 3 to 4 for F12)
Tabled (the Academic Affairs Committee is studying issues around four-credit courses).

Sociology Department
Sociology Program (Robert Wolf)
Program modification not requiring a bill for F12
Tabled (the Academic Affairs Committee is studying issues around four-credit courses).

Performing Arts Department
MUS 345: Choral Masterworks (David Pellegrini)
New Course Proposal
Approved.

Biology Department
BIO 120: Organismal Biology with Laboratory (Gloria Colurso)
Changes in existing course (change catalog description for SP12)
Approved. Course description will be changed.

The following three Biology courses are tabled pending clarification: please spell out what the old pre- (or co-) requisites were versus the proposed new ones, and please include a letter or similar verification from the Chemistry/Physical Sciences faculty that they support this pre-/co-requisite.

Biology Department
BIO 130: Ecology with Laboratory (Gloria Colurso)
Changes in existing course (change prereqs and cat description for SP12)

Biology Department
BIO 220: Cell Structure and Function with Laboratory (Gloria Colurso)
Changes in existing course (change in prereqs and catalog description for SP12)

Biology Department
BIO 230: General Genetics with Laboratory (Gloria Colurso)
Changes in existing course (change in prereqs and cat description for SP12)