Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes March 28, 2016

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE
CURRICULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the seventh meeting of the 2015-2016 academic year

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on Monday, March 28, 2016 in Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Owens presiding.

The following members were present: Professors Brand, Chadha, English, Ferguson, Izenstark, Rojas, Vaccaro, Vice Provost Beauvais, and Ms. Kristine Buss. Dr. Goldsmith, Director of the Office for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, and Ms. Neff, Faculty Senate Office, were also in attendance.

The following members were not present: Professors Akanda, Dorado, Flannery-Schroeder, and Hawes.

II. The Minutes of Meeting #6, February 29, 2016, were approved.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. NEW COURSES:

The Committee discussed the new course proposal for GEO 462, Aqueous Geochemistry, a simultaneous course with GEO 562. The Committee approved this course.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of MAF 445, Environmental Thought and Behavior, a simultaneous course with MAF 545. The proposal was approved.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for the creation of OCE 313, Computational Solutions for Ocean Engineering Problems. The syllabus lacked a grading scale, reading assignments, and descriptive goals and outcomes. Professor Owens volunteered to contact the instructor; she requested a poll be sent to the committee for approval.

B. NEW TEMPORARY COURSE:

A proposal for a new course, MAF/HIS 371X, History of Humans and the Marine Environment, was reviewed and approved by the Committee.

C. NEW GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES:
The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of a new general education course, **GEO 200, Field Based Geoscience Data Analysis**. This course was proposed as part of the new general education program, with full outcomes of Math, Statistical, Computational Strategies and Information Literacy. The Library Impact Statement was not presented and the schedule on the syllabus was considered weak. Professor English volunteered to contact the instructor to make recommendations on the syllabus. The course was approved pending receipt of the Library Impact Statement.

A proposal for new course, **HIS 119G, Vaccines and Society**, was presented to the committee and was approved with general education full outcomes of Humanities, Civic Knowledge and Responsibilities, and Grand Challenge.

The Committee discussed the proposal to create **PSC/PHL 421G Secularism and Islamism in the Modern World**. The proposal requested full outcomes of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Diversity and Inclusion, and Grand Challenge. The Committee approved the proposal.

**D. COURSE CHANGES:**

The Committee reviewed the proposal requesting changing the course number of **CHE 349, Transfer Operations II, to CHE 449**, credits from 2 to 3, and the course description. The lack of a rationale and grading scale, as well a lack clarification of the how the increase in course hours would be accomplished, the Committee voted to hold the proposal until the next meeting. Ms. Buss was asked to speak to the proposer.

The Committee discussed the proposals to change the course numbers and prerequisites for **CHE 351, Plant Design and Economics I to CHE 451**, and **CHE 352, Plant Design and Economics II to CHE 452**. Both courses lacked rationales, grading scales, and assignment details and descriptions. Ms. Buss was asked to contact the proposer. The proposals were moved to the next meeting.

The Committee considered a proposal to change the credits, from 3 to 4, and course description of **HDF 312, Adult Development**. Chair Owens volunteered to contact the proposer with recommendations to revise syllabus with measurable outcomes. The Committee voted to approve the proposal.

**E. COURSE CHANGES FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES:**

The Committee considered a proposal presented through the general education process for a change of credits from variable credit, 1-3, to a 3-credit course for **HIS 393, Topics in History**. The full outcomes for this course are Humanities and Write Effectively. The Committee approved this proposal.

A proposal to change the method of instruction from rehearsal to studio for **MUS 293, University Chorus**, was reviewed and approved by the Committee. The Committee suggested that the reference to general education on the syllabus be expanded to the full outcome name of Arts and Design. The outcomes for this course are Arts & Design (full) and Communicate Effectively (partial).
F. ONLINE COURSES:
A proposal to create a 7-week accelerated online version of GWS 220, Women and the Natural Sciences was approved.

G. CURRICULAR CHANGES:

1) COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:
The Committee considered a proposal to adjust the catalog copy for the BA in Spanish. The change allows for consistency in the IEP programs. The proposal was approved.

2) COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION:
A proposal for corrections to the catalog copy and curriculum worksheets for the BIS program was considered. These changes were required in response to the changing general education requirements. The committee approved the proposal.

3) COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING:
a) Changes to the requirements for the BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering were considered and approved by the Committee.

   b) A proposal for the creation of a Minor in Environmental Engineering was discussed. The Committee questioned whether a minor and major from the same academic organization was permissible. The Faculty Senate office was requested to contact Jack Humphrey, Senior Associate Director of Enrollment Services; the Chair requested a poll be sent once a determination was made.

4) COLLEGE OF PHARMACY:
A proposal to change the PharmD Progression Standards was presented to the Committee. The proposal was approved.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
a) As the general education process may be continuing through the summer, a discussion was held regarding compensation for summer work. If Committee members were willing to work during the summer, compensation would be available for 9-month people at the rate of $150 for 4 hours and $300 for a full day. Chair Owens inquired if any members were willing to work in the summer. The following committee members volunteered: Brand, Izenstark, Ferguson, and Dorado. Professors English and Rojas stated a willingness if needed. Ms. Neff reminded the current members that they are still considered active members of the committee until the end of the summer and may participate. New members will begin in September.
b) With the establishment of the School of Health Sciences and the College of Education and Professional Studies (CEPS), Ms. Neff discussed potential changes needed to the CAC membership in the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate. Ms. Neff explained that CEPS would now have tenure-track faculty who would qualify for membership for the CAC rather than representation by the Associate Dean.

Chair Owens volunteered to edit the description of the Committee found in the By-Laws. Associate Dean Vaccaro, Vice Provost Beauvais, and Professor English agreed to initially review the changes made by the Chair. The full Committee would be asked to review the changes when complete.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lawrence
POST-SCRIPT (Update after 3/28/16 meeting)

1) The proposal for the creation of OCE 313, Computational Solutions for Ocean Engineering Problems (3 crs.) was electronically approved on April 13, 2016.

2) The Library Impact Statement for GEO 200, Field Based Geoscience Data Analysis was received on March 29th and the course was considered approved.

3) The Committee approved the proposal for the new Minor in Environmental Engineering via electronic poll on April 14, 2016, with 9 members approving and 1 abstaining.