Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes September 26, 2016

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts

Recommended Citation
University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes September 26, 2016" (2016). Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices. Paper 120.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/120
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE

CURRICULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the first meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2016 in Library Conference Room A, Faculty Senate Chair Sullivan presiding.

The following members were present: Professors Cardany, Dorado, English, Ferguson, Gordon, Izenstark, King, Opaluch, Stout, Swaszek, Vice Provost Beauvais, and Mr. John Rooney. Dr. Goldsmith, Director of Advancement of Teaching and Learning, and Ms. Neff, Faculty Senate Office, were also in attendance.

Faculty Senate Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. He introduced himself and explained that as there was no chair, he would be presiding over the meeting. He asked for all present to introduce themselves.

II. The Minutes of Meeting #7, March 28, 2016 were approved as amended. Meeting #8, April 25, 2016, and a special summer meeting of June 27, 2016, were approved.

III. REPORTS:

a. Coordinator Neff reminded the Committee that, last year, the Committee had decided that once a course had been approved for online teaching, it was available to be taught for any calendar, j-term, accelerated, regular or summer. There was no need for a syllabus to be reviewed for a different academic term.

Vice Provost Beauvais inquired if a course were approved as online only, could it at some later time be taught in a face-to-face format with no further approval. Ms. Neff indicated that, because this issue has not come to the CAC as of yet, the Committee has not made any determination about it.

b. Ms. Neff explained that the course approval process that had been in place prior to the expedited implementation process of general education courses would be resumed for those courses requiring CAC and General Education Committee (GEC) approval. Any new courses or course changes would be presented to the CAC first and then be forwarded to the GEC. The CAC would be responsible for approving the course and/or the change not the general education component. If an existing course were seeking to be a general education course and no other changes were requested, the proposal would go directly to the GEC.
A discussion of the process ensued and it was agreed that having the CAC review the proposal first was the best practice.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. NEW COURSES:

The Committee discussed the new course proposal for COM 447, Entertainment Media Research (originally proposed as Primary Media Market Research). Upon reminding the Faculty Senate Office of the course title change, the course was approved.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of ISE 334, Systems Simulation (formerly Simulation Modeling and Analysis). The syllabus lacked assignment dates, goals, and assessment information. The proposal was moved to the next meeting. Professor Swaszek volunteered to contact the proposer.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. NEW COURSES:

The Committee considered new course proposals for BUS 149 (and BUS 149X), Introduction to Entrepreneurship. A motion was made to table the permanent version of this course but allow the approval of the temporary (X) course. Concern of overlap with BUS 449 was discussed. Professor Dorado volunteered to follow up with the instructor. BUS 149X, Introduction to Entrepreneurship was approved.

The Committee reviewed proposals for the creation of BUS 247 (and BUS 247X), Imagination: Explore, Evolve, and Engage. A motion was made to table the permanent version of this course but allow the approval of the temporary (X) course. Concern was expressed that the course title and description did not convey true course content, as well as the lack of an attendance policy on the syllabus. Professor Dorado volunteered to follow up with the instructor. BUS 247X, Imagination: Explore, Evolve, and Engage was approved.

Proposals for the creation of BUS 249 (and BUS 249X), The Business of Innovation, and BUS 348 (and BUS 348X), Business of Social Global Design and Innovation, were considered by the Committee and tabled as permanent and temporary (X) courses. Concern of overlap between BUS 249 and EGR 325, and BUS 348 and BUS 140GH were discussed. A question concerning the college faculty review process was also raised. Chair Sullivan agreed to contact the College of Business Administration to clarify.

The proposal for BUS 475, Social Media for Marketing: Analytics and Strategy was considered and approved by the Committee. Vice Provost Beauvais suggested a conversation discussing the possibility of cross-listing the course might be warranted.

The Committee discussed the proposal for CHN/EGR 413, Advanced Technical Chinese, previously an X-course, to become a permanent course. The proposal was approved.
The Committee reviewed the proposal for new course **PHP 444, Pharmacotherapy for Older Adults.** The proposal was approved.

**B. NEW TEMPORARY COURSES:**
A proposal for **OCG 150X, Coastal Oceanography Data in RI Coastal Waters** was tabled until the October Temporary Course Newsletter in order for the syllabus and signed Library Impact Statement to be received. The Faculty Senate Office agreed to continuing contacting the proposer.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of **PLS 498X, Teaching Practicum in Plant Sciences.** The proposal was approved.

**C. NEW GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES:**
The Committee reviewed the proposal to create a permanent course, **FLM 100, Introduction to Film/Media for Medical Professionals,** currently an X-course. This course also requested to be part of the new general education program. The Committee approved the request for the permanent course. The Faculty Senate Office will forward the course to the General Education Committee.

A Committee discussed the proposal for the creation of **ISE/MCE 461G, Renewables: Solar Engineering.** Due to concerns that the college curriculum committee may not have been part of the approval process, the proposal was tabled. Professor Swaszek volunteered to follow up.

**D. COURSE CHANGES:**
Chair Sullivan moved to approve all courses changes together. The motion was amended to remove COM 435 from the motion. The amendment was approved. The main motion to approve the course changes, except for COM 435, was approved.

The Committee approved the proposals, changing the number of **SPA 111, Accelerated Elementary Spanish** to **SPA 100;** changing the course description of **FLM 203, Film Theory;** changing the description and adding a cross-listing of **CSC to COM 271, Web Design and Programming;** changing the prerequisite and add a cross-listing of **CSC to COM 372, Dynamic Web Design and Programming;** and changing the prerequisites for **FLM 351, Topics in Film Media Production** and **NUR 203, Comprehensive Health Assessment.**

The Committee also approved changes to the course number and prerequisite for **THN/NUR 270 (previously 426), Loss Across the Lifespan.** This course had been approved for general education by the GEC.

The Committee considered the proposal changing the prerequisite for **COM 435, Directing Group Performance of Nondramatic Literature.** A Committee member questioned the availability of the course in eCampus. The course change was not acted upon. The Faculty Senate Office volunteered to contact the proposer. (See post-script)

**E. ONLINE COURSES:**
The Committee approved the proposal to teach online sections **CLA 396, Myths of Rome.**

**F. CURRICULAR CHANGES:**

a) College of Arts and Sciences:
The Committee considered the proposal for changes to the B.A. and B.S. in Economics. The proposal requested requiring a grade of C or better in ECN 201 and 202, and a mathematics course, adding the requirement of a statistics course, and allowing only 3 credits of substitution from other departments. The proposal was approved.

b) College of the Environment and Life Sciences:
A proposal to add AFS, OCE, and OCG courses to the approved list of electives for B.S. in Marine Biology degree was considered by the Committee. The Committee approved the curriculum change.

c) Schmidt Labor Research Center:
The Schmidt Labor Research Center proposed transferring from the former Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Continuing Education and to become organizationally responsible to the College of Business Administration. The transfer included the Center, the Graduate Certificate Program in Labor Relations and Human Resources, the Work, Labor, and Social Justice minor (formerly Labor Studies), the M.S. and M.S./J.D. in Labor Relations and Human Resources, and all LRS courses, which would now fall under the CBA. The Committee approved the proposal.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
Vice Provost Beauvais shared with the Committee that the Commissioner for Postsecondary Education has some concerns about the number of 400-level courses allowed to be used toward graduate programs at URI. She relayed that Provost DeHayes explained that all 400-level courses used for graduate programs require the approval of the Graduate Council.
A suggestion to encourage simultaneous and/or cross-listed courses was discussed by the Committee. Some committee members had concerns that offering simultaneous courses might produce under-enrolled classes. The Committee agreed that this is a topic that will require additional discussion.

Chair Sullivan told the Committee that he had had a discussion with Interim Chief Information Officer, Mr. Richard Kubica, regarding electronic and pre-populating course proposal forms for URI. Chair Sullivan reiterated that the charge of the CAC was to consider course content, conflict, and management. In that scope, he queried the committee regarding the creation of a pre-populating syllabus that would automatically identify religious holidays, and allow pre-selection of faculty policies and other important semester dates. Committee members were receptive to this idea and encouraged Chair Sullivan to continue his discussion with Mr. Kubica. Dr. Goldsmith said that a consistency in syllabi would be beneficial to the students. She indicated that staff from her office would be available to assist.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lawrence
POST-SCRIPT (Update after 2/29/16 meeting)

1) The deleting of **COM 435, Directing Group Performance of Nondramatic Literature**, from the catalog was addressed. The timing of the deletion allowed for the course to be reactivated upon request of the department chair. One September 30, 2016, once the request was made and the course made active in e-Campus, a poll was sent to the Committee requesting approval of the proposal to change the prerequisite. The prerequisite change was approved electronically by a majority of the Committee on October 3, 2016.