Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes October 24, 2016

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE
CURRICULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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

I. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. on Monday, October 24, 2016 in Library Conference Room A, Faculty Senate Chair Sullivan presiding.

The following members were present: Professors Cardany, Dorado, English, Ferguson, Gordon, Izenstark, King, McClure, Opaluch, Stout, Swaszek, Vice Provost Beauvais, and Mr. John Rooney. Ms. Neff, Faculty Senate Office, was also in attendance.

Faculty Senate Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. He reminded the Committee members of the charge for the Committee as defined by the University Manual and asked Ms. Neff to again email that information to the Committee.

II. The Minutes of Meeting #1, September 26, 2016 were approved.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

A. NEW COURSES:

The Committee discussed the new course proposal for ISE 334, Simulation Modeling and Analysis (3 crs.). The Committee found that the syllabus listed two different prerequisites. Professor Swaszek volunteered to contact the proposer for clarification. The proposal was moved to the November meeting.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of ISE/MCE 461G, Renewables: Solar Engineering. The Committee did not approve this proposal at the September meeting due to concerns that the college curriculum committee may not have been part of the approval process. Professor Swaszek requested to have the course withdrawn from the agenda and moved to the November meeting.

B. NEW TEMPORARY COURSES:

The Committee reviewed proposals for BUS 249X, Business of Innovation: Lean Startup and BUS 348X, Business of Innovation: Social Design. The proposals were approved.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. NEW COURSES:
The Committee considered new course proposal for ART 105, 4D (Time Based) Studio I. The proposal was approved. The proposal is to be forwarded to the General Education for acceptance as a general education course.

The Committee discussed the proposal for COM 321G, Social Media and Interpersonal Communication. The course was approved and will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

A proposal for EDC 304, Jumpstart Seminar was presented to the committee. After clarification of the prerequisite, the Committee approved the course. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee reviewed a proposal for LAR 472, The Design of Home-Scale Renewable Energy System. A suggestion was made to have learning objectives 6 and 7 listed separately on the syllabus. Professor Gordon was called upon to differentiate between this course and existing engineering courses. After discussion, the proposal was approved.

The Committee considered the proposal for OCG 108G, Living by the Ocean. As this course was seeking admittance into the general education program with a Mathematical, Statistical, and Computational Strategies outcome, the Committee expressed concern that the lack of a math prerequisite would not allow students to determine if this course was appropriate for them. Vice Provost Beauvais assured the Committee that the General Education Committee scrutinizes those issues and volunteered to relay the CAC’s concerns to the General Education Committee. The Committee also discussed other concerns: the lack of a reading and assignment list, transportation needs for the field trips, overlap with other courses, and the need for students to acquire required software. Chairperson Sullivan volunteered to follow up with the proposer.

The Committee discussed the proposal for the creation of PHP 464, Pharmacy Leadership and Political Advocacy. The proposal was approved.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for PLS 498, Teaching Practicum in Plant Sciences as a permanent course. The proposal was approved.

The proposal for THE 338G, Ethical Dilemmas in Contemporary Theatre was discussed. The Committee approved the course, which will be sent to the General Education Committee.

B. NEW TEMPORARY COURSES:

A proposal for AVS 344X, Methods in Applied Animal Behavior was discussed and approved by the Committee.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of EVS 295X, Introduction to Undergraduate Research. The Committee questioned whether this course, as currently formatted, would be appropriate in other semesters rather than the j-term requested. A prerequisite of “permission of instructor” and the addition to the title of “in Environmental Sciences” was suggested if a permanent course were requested in the future. Chairperson Sullivan volunteered to contact the proposer with these suggestions. The course was approved.

The Committee discussed the proposal for MAF 300X, Social Studies of Science. The Committee suggested that enrollment of 20 may be too high for a seminar course, questioned the intended audience,
and questioned if a different course title would be more concise. Chairperson Sullivan offered to make these suggestions to the proposer. The course was approved.
C. COURSE CHANGES:

Chair Sullivan moved to approve the change in title and description for CHN 315, Intensive Advanced Chinese for the Chinese Flagship Program I. A motion was made to first consider the program changes to the BA in Chinese. The motion was approved.

The Committee considered the proposal requesting changes to add a paragraph regarding the Chinese Language Flagship Program to the catalog copy for the BA in Chinese. The proposal was approved.

Having approved the curriculum changes, the proposals to change title and description for CHN 315, Intensive Advanced Chinese for the Chinese Flagship Program I; CHN 315H, Honors Section of CHN 315: Intensive Advanced Chinese for the Chinese Flagship Program I; CHN 316, Intensive Advanced Chinese for the Chinese Flagship Program II; and CHN 316H, Honors Section of CHN 316: Intensive Advanced Chinese for the Chinese Flagship Program II were approved by the Committee.

The Committee discussed the proposal to change the description for ITL 395, Dante’s Divine Comedy. The proposal was approved.

The Committee reviewed a proposal to add ECN as a cross-listing to AAF/PSC 415. The proposal was approved and the course will now be AAF/PSC/ECN 415, Dynamics of Social Change in the Caribbean.

The Committee considered a proposal to change the course number of THN/NUR 360 to THN / NUR 260, Impact of Death on Behavior. The proposal was approved.

A motion was made to consider the proposal for changes to the Nursing curriculum prior to considering the proposals to change prerequisites for NUR 213, 243, and 253. The motion was approved.

The Committee reviewed the proposal to switch the semester offerings of specific nursing courses. The Committee approved the proposal.

The Committee voted to approve the proposals to change the prerequisite for NUR 213, Pathophysiology, NUR 243, Pharmacotherapeutics for Nursing, and NUR 253, Nursing Research.

A motion was made to consider the proposal for changes to the Public Relations major—BA degree prior to reviewing the proposals changing prerequisites for PRS 100, 200, 300, 340, and 491. The motion was approved.

The Committee reviewed the proposal submitted for the Public Relations major to change the pre-requisite course, and to change required categories to focus areas. The proposal was approved.

The Committee discussed the proposals to change the prerequisites for PRS 100, Introduction to Public Relations; PRS 200, Introduction to Event Management; PRS 300, Social Media Strategies for the PR Professionals; PRS 340, Public Relations; and PRS 491, Public Relations Internship. The proposals were approved.
D. CURRICULAR CHANGES:

a) College of the Environment and Life Sciences:
   The Committee discussed the proposal for the creation of an **Undergraduate Certificate in Energy Economics and Policy**. A correction to the approval dates was requested; the Faculty Senate Office offered to change the dates to 2016 rather than 2017. Professor Opaluch addressed issues regarding the market value of certificates in the field, how this certificate differs from a minor, the impact on a student’s path to graduation (time) and cost at the University, and if non-matriculating students could pursue this certificate. The proposal was approved.

b) Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies:
   The Committee considered a proposal for the creation of a **new course code of SPC** for courses to be mapped to the new School of Professional and Continuing Studies. The Committee approved the proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lawrence