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Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes October 23, 2017

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 2017-2018 academic year

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. on Monday, October 23, 2017 in the Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Sullivan presiding. (The meeting time was changed to 2:00 pm in order to allow Committee members to attend the NEASC faculty session meeting.)

The following members were present: Professors Baglama, Brand, Cardany, Dorado, Izenstark, King, Loftus-Rattan, McClure, and Swaszek. Vice Provost Beauvais, Mr. John Rooney, and Ms. Neff, Faculty Senate Office, were also in attendance.

The following members were absent: Professor Gordon and Director Goldsmith.

Chairperson Sullivan called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

II. The Minutes of Meeting #1, September 25, 2017 were pending at the time of the meeting.

III. REPORTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

a. COLLEGE OF PHARMACY:
The Committee discussed the proposal for the creation of BPS 446, Biotechnology, Biologics and Biosimilars. The Committee approved the request.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for new course, BPS 345, Introduction to Pharmaceutical Research. The course was approved.

b. COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES:
The Committee considered the proposal to create BIO 482G, Evolutionary Medicine of Human Health and Disease. The proposal was approved. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee discussed the proposal to change the requirements to transfer out of University College into the College of the Environment and Life Sciences for the BS in Geology and Geological Oceanography. The proposal requested the addition of MTH 103 and MTH 141 as options for the students. The proposal was approved.

c. COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING:
The proposal for the creation of EGR 201, Seminar in Naval Science and Technology was reviewed and approved by the Committee.
The Committee considered a proposal to cross-list MCE/CHE 472, Power Plant System Design and Safety Analysis with NUE. The Committee approved the proposal. The proposal will be forwarded to the Graduate Council.

The Committee reviewed the proposals to change the prerequisites and add NUE as a cross-listing to MCE/CHE 471, Nuclear Reactor Engineering and MCE/CHE 473, Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Performance. The Committee approved both proposals. The proposals will be forwarded to the Graduate Council.

The Committee discussed the proposals to change the titles of ELE 301, Electronic Design Automation to ELE 301, Digital Design with FPGAs, ELE 302, Electronic Design Automation Laboratory to ELE 302, Digital Design with FPGAs Laboratory, ELE 408, Computer Organization to ELE 408, Embedded System Design, ELE 409, Computer Organization Laboratory to ELE 409, Embedded System Design Laboratory, and ELE437/CSC 417 Computer Communications to ELE 437/CSC 417, Introduction to Computer Networks. All five proposals were approved en bloc; the 400-level proposals for graduate credit will be forwarded to the Graduate Council.

The Committee considered the proposal for the BS in Biomedical Engineering to update the curriculum to reflect changes in supporting courses from the Biology department, BIO 121 replaced by BIO 220, 221 and BIO 242, 244 replaced by BIO 222, 223. The Committee approved the proposal.

The Committee reviewed the proposal for the BS in Mechanical Engineering removing the requirement of ISE 220, resulting in the total number of credits required for graduation dropping from 121 to 120. The Committee approved the proposal.

d. GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY
The Committee discussed the proposal for the creation of OCG 106G, You, Me, and Life in the Sea. The proposal was approved and will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

e. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:
The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of FLM / COM 417, Media Industry History & Practice. After discussion, the course was approved.

The Committee discussed the proposal for the new course STA 305, Introduction to Statistical Computing with R. The Committee had concerns of significant overlap with BIO/DSP 439, that the prerequisites should not include STA 220 and MTH 132, but should include MTH 103 and 141, reading “MTH 103 or 111 or 131 or 141.” Concerns were also expressed about CSC 4-credit courses meeting in non-standard time slots and the negative impact on scheduling other courses. The proposal was not approved.

The proposal for the creation of STA 445, Bayesian Statistics I was discussed by the Committee. The Committee felt the course title should include “Introduction” or remove the “I,” a letter from the mathematics department addressing any overlap with MTH courses is needed, and it was advised that the department consult with the math department on the prerequisite. The Committee did not approve the course.

A motion was made and approved to postpone consideration of the proposals for STA/DSP 441, Introduction to Multivariate Statistical Learning and STA/DSP 490, Statistics in Practice until such time that the computer science department consults with the mathematics department regarding overlap and prerequisites.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the proposals to change the prerequisites for COM 381, Research Methods in Communication, COM 383, Rhetorical Theory, COM 440, Telecommunications Processes and Audience Behavior, and COM 450, Organizational Communication Theory. The proposals were approved.
The proposal to change the course number, COM 471 to **COM 477, Internship in Communication Studies**, credits from 1-3 credits to **1-6 credits**, and course description was discussed and approved by the Committee.

The Committee considered the proposal to change the title of HIS 333, Twentieth Century Russia to **HIS 333, Russia Since 1900**. After discussion, the Committee requested that the impact statement on page 2 of the Course Change form be completed. The Committee also felt the new title did not reflect the content of the course. The course was not approved.

The Committee discussed the course number change for PRS 491 to **PRS 477, Public Relations Internship**. The Committee approved the proposal.

The Committee reviewed the proposal **COM / SUS 460, Environmental Communication: Local & Global** to add online sections. The proposal was approved.

The Committee considered the proposal for the creation of an **International Studies and Diplomacy major in the BA degree**. The Chair commented that feedback from the Sr. Associate Director of Enrollment Services indicated that the program was not a 3 +2 BA/MA but rather a 4 +1; there was no designated home department, which is required of interdisciplinary programs; and there was no admissions language allowing for qualified undergraduate students to apply in their junior year. The Committee questioned the total program credits of 122 when programs are discouraged from exceeding 120 credits, why the JCAP feedback was not addressed, and the lack of diplomacy courses in a Diplomacy major. The Committee requested clarification of the poster session, the budget letter, and confirmation that this program was a priority for the new administration in the college. The Committee did not approve the creation of the International Studies and Diplomacy major.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

**a. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:**

The Committee considered the revisions for the creation of **ECN 358, Globalization and National Economies**, as an online course. The proposal was approved.

The Committee discussed the revised new course proposal for **SOC 475G, Reproduction in Society**, which removed the cross listing with APG. The Committee approved the course. The proposal will be forwarded to the General Education Committee.

The Committee reviewed the proposal to cross-list and change the title of LIN 420, Second Language Acquisition to **LIN/EDC 420, Second Language Acquisition and Assessment**. The proposal was approved and will be forwarded to the Graduate Council.

**VI. DISCUSSION:**

Ms. Neff reminded the Committee that previous committees had agreed that once a course was approved for online, any online course could be offered in any semester without needing to be brought back the CAC. For example, an approved online course in an accelerated program did not need to re-proposed to be taught online during j-term. A motion was made and approved to retain the practice that approved online courses need not be resubmitted to be taught in a different semester.

A motion was made and approved to revisit, at a future meeting, the CAC “rules” gathered by Ms. Neff.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lawrence