2-20-2018

Minutes, Curriculum Committee Meeting, Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Curriculum Committee

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Date: 2/20/2018
Location: Bush 176

Attendees:

- Josh Almond (Chair)
- James Patrone (Sec.)
- Mattea Garcia
- Gloria Cook
- Stephanie Henning
- Mario D’Amato
- Emily Russell
- Jamey Ray
- Nancy Niles
- Nick Houndonougbo
- Dan Chong
- Andrew Phillips
- Jonathan Harwell
- Stephen Booker
- Tiffany Griffin
- Kasandra Riley
- Mae Fitchett
- Janette Smith
- Todd French
- Dan Myers
- Paul Stephenson

Agenda/Discussion

1. Approve minutes from the February 6, 2018 meetings
   a. Motion to approve minutes from 2/6/2018 meetings
   b. DECISION: APPROVED (8-0-0)

2. Sub-committee announcements and/or reports
   a. New Course Committee (N. Niles)
      i. Meeting today at 3:30pm today
      ii. 14 New courses, 4 rFLA, 12 Maymester classes
   b. Academic Appeals Committee (M. Garcia, G.)
      i. Met and have usual cases
      ii. Discussion on appeals and how to use them along with leave
   c. International Committee (N. Houndonougbo)
      i. No report
   d. EC report (J. Almond)
      i. SE discussions
      ii. FEC review discussions and review process

3. Old Business
   a. Review of rFLA Divisional Exception classes (E. Russell)
      i. Moved to larger discussion after major map changes
   b. Proposed changes to Faculty Line Request form (J. Almond)
      i. Josh had reviewed current document and noted the redundancy and inappropriateness of the last question on form
      ii. Recommends removing last question from new tenure track line request form

4. New business
   a. Proposed Changes to the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB) Major (K. Riley) - 12:30
      i. Removal of BCH440 and moving BCH435 to become the capstone of major
      ii. Students must take a minimum of 6 elective hours in both CHM and BIO
      iii. BCH435 is based on primary literature and has large writing component
iv. Will teach BCH440 for next 2 years
v. Have you thought about changing name to fit capstone
   1. More appropriate based on content and lab

b. Motion to approve changes to BMB
c. DECISION: APPROVED (8-0-0)
d. Proposed Changes to the Biology Major (K. Sutherland)
   i. Addition of microbial genetics
   ii. Changing name of Cellular Biology to Cell Biology
   iii. Students must score AP 5 or a higher level IB of 5,6, or 7 for 1 of 2 general biology courses
iv. Paul defends being student centric and ties this to mission statement
v. This is one strategy, but does not address root of problem and simply makes rationalization (J. Almond)
vi. BIO120 and BIO121 have same description; have you thought of being more explicit about which course has which content?

vii. Classes have been taught in the same fashion for past 4-5 years
viii. Keeping descriptions is leaves flexibility

E. Motion to approve changes to BIO and Marine Bio
   f. DECISION: APPROVED (8-0-0)

g. Discussion of rFLA Neighborhoods/Colloquium Round-up (E. Russell)
   i. Current state of Union
   ii. Student Surveys
      1. Same questions as asked in past
      2. 16% response rate – more positive than negative
      3. Concerns about choice and courses being too hard
      4. Cohort experience were split – trended towards negative
      5. Full results will be available on Blackboard
   iii. Hypotheses
      1. Negative at first but getting better
         a. Data does not support this
      2. Does program perception change over time
         a. Somewhat
      3. Are some neighborhoods better at making connections?
         a. WCC and IMW

iv. Models for Staffing & Student Choice
   1. 28 courses per yr in each division
   2. Divisional exemption removes 4-10 per division per year
      a. Largest staffing reduction!!!!
   3. Removing 1 neighborhood removes .5 class per division per year
      a. Modest at best
   4. Student choice does not actually go up as neighborhoods go down
   5. Conversation centered on option of opening the 200 level courses and keeping 100 and 300 in the thematic neighborhood
   6. Would it be better to keep neighborhoods or go to 1 neighborhood

5. Announcements (none)

6. Adjourn
   a. Motion to adjourn