

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 10, 2013

Present: Jackson, Barak, Bland, Brown, Skop, Smith, Steele, Van Eyck, Pfatteicher, Gonsiska, Gisler, Sottile

Absent: Kloppenberg

Motion to call meeting to order at 12:01pm by Skop; seconded by Bland

MINUTES

- May 28, 2013 Minutes
 - Amend to include Jackson as present
 - Approved by Skop; seconded by Bland

BUSINESS

- Overview charge/schedule
 - Purpose of committee: to review course proposals and provide feedback to Academic Planning Council (APC) regarding program-level changes
 - Curriculum committee functions on the course level while APC functions at the program level
 - The first meeting of the month will focus on strategic planning and the second meeting of the month will focus on course proposals
 - A. Sottile and S. Gisler present to take minutes and consult/provide policy information as needed. They will primarily be present for the second meeting of the month for course proposals
 - Every member is expected to read all proposals, but “lead reader” will be assigned per proposal
 - The meetings joint with L&S will regard cross-listed majors, such as Biology, Biochemistry, etc.
- Strategic Planning re: Capacity Metrics
 - There are three parts of education: what we teach (content), when and where we teach it (delivery), and to whom and how much do we teach (capacity)
 - Capacity is the driver of the first two parts
 - What is our capacity and how do we know? We currently have 4,000 students (undergrad and grad students). How do we know if this is too much or too few?
 - Charge: how do we measure capacity?
 - Committee is to come up with “educational vital signs” to be able to “routinely check some key markers of the health of our educational system and use those measurements to determine when additional tests or measurements may be necessary.” The vital signs should:
 - Be easy to measure
 - Be inexpensive
 - Have known standards
 - Be non-invasive
 - Be able to be used routinely
 - Committee is to have a draft by December 2013
 - Discussion:

- Capacity seems to be residual of parts one and two of education
 - College should not be the unit of analysis, but the program with student level included
 - What is the measurement of success? Graduation? Jobs? Must agree on that before establishing any measurements
 - Ultimately, the use of this information is internal (for the purpose of resources and response to student changes) within the department and the college. Eventually will be used to present our case campus-wide
 - See handout “Project Charter”
- Proposal for Undergraduate Certificate in Globalization and Development Economics (AAE)
 - Start date would be Fall 2014
 - 15 credits, undergraduate students only, specialization would be noted on student’s transcript
 - Discussion:
 - Current AAE enrollment is 78 students, with 30 pursuing certificates. If students exceed capacity, how will advising be handled?
 - The proposal does indicate that additional resources may be needed
 - Is it odd that support letters are from L&S rather than from within CALS?
 - How will revenue streams look? Right now revenue does not follow students, but this model, or a similar one, may be adopted in the future
 - In reference to the proposal document, #7 Overlap Limits should perhaps consider a credit level limit instead of limiting the number of courses (see line:...”may count no more than two courses toward both their major...”)
 - What are the advantages of certificates? And when is it appropriate to take one?
 - Certificates use resources and take seats
 - Certificates were created in response to patterns of classes being taken together – departments wanted to give it a name
- Dept of Zoology wants to change the name of their graduate program to Integrative Biology
 - Discussion:
 - “Zoology” is an outdated term
 - Good idea to change the name, but the name must be inclusive of all those in the department
 - “Integrated Biology” is perhaps too broad/too comprehensive
 - Assumption is the Botany will not be content with the name change if it excludes them
 - Would be helpful to see letters of support with the proposal
 - Perhaps include “ecology” in the title...?

Motion to adjourn by Bland; seconded by Steele