

CALS Curriculum Committee  
Monday, November 8, 2010

The meeting started off with an update on the department curriculum sheets:

- All department curriculum sheets are in (missing BS in Landscape Architecture)
- Only about 1/3 of the departments are requiring in-person meetings (mostly issues of clarification)
- The goal is to get DARS programmed by about mid-March (in time for spring advising)

Capstone discussion:

- The old capstone requirements have been in place since 1992
- Department capstones were last reviewed during the 1998-1999 school year
- General support seems to exist for continuing the capstone requirement in CALS
- Biology has the most complex set of options
- We have requested capstone documents from all programs, and we have received a little over 4
- John Stier would like the committee to review existing capstones across the CALS departments

There was more discussion about Capstone, particularly about possible future directions:

- We should consider adding language clarifying why capstones should be senior year (should tie together work done in major coursework)
- Possible exploration of joint capstones?
- Do we need to confirm Capstone requirements before pushing departments to meet, or is it ok to review department capstones under the current rules?

In the last part of the meeting, we looked over some of the department capstone documents that had been received already:

- AAE has a capstone course, A A E 500, but this is not being used for the capstone requirement (not currently being taught)
- Dairy Science has two courses, DY SCI 690 and 535, and requires both courses to fulfill the capstone requirement
- MICROBIO 551: students can take this as an adjunct to lab research; the other half of students get tied to a group project
  - Can other departments use this model?
- Is there a course number that is free across all departments (i.e. 500 or 599) that can be used for a capstone course?
- The Horticulture requirement is HORT 374 (Tropical Horticulture-Costa Rica) or 372 (with LACIS 440) or by approval
- Wildlife Ecology capstone options: 375 (Mexico), 599 (Capstone), 590 (Forest Science Capstone), 375 (White-Tailed Deer), 600 (Environmental Studies Certificate Seminar-one section is reserved for Forest and Wildlife Ecology students), 699 (Special Problems)