

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2017, 12:00 p.m.
250 Agricultural Hall

Voting Members Present: Albrecht, Balster, Barack-Cunningham, Choi, Gould, Lenertz-Lindemer, Runde, Turnquist

Voting Members Absent: Engles, Reaves

Non-Voting Members Present: Bollig, Grill

Guests: Rich Hartel (Food Science), Sean Schoville and Sara Rodock (Entomology)

Meeting Called to Order: 12:03

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from April 11, 2017
2. **555 HORT** Plant Functional Genomics and Bioinformatics --Course Discontinuation; effective Summer 2017

Items 1 & 2 approved by Consent

ACTION ITEMS

3. Proposed changes to the Food Science Major effective fall 2017 – Rich Hartel

Motion to approve Gould; Albrecht

- These changes will be effective for Fall 2017 and have been unanimously approved by the Food Science faculty
- Originally, one member of the faculty was against the changes until the committee reviewed the course description for Physics 103, and Math 211- which are not intended for science and engineering students
- Changes are related to increasing the rigor of the Food Science curriculum in response to the fact that students are not getting adequate preparation in the sciences
- Changes will also address the issue with course sequencing. Students are often waiting until their senior year to take the second physics, biology, and Ochem course because the prerequisites courses are too intense to complete in the first two years
- Students will be required to take BIO/ZOO 151 and have the option of taking BIO/ZOO 152, or a 400 level or above course to meet the Biological Science Requirement- allowing them greater flexibility
- Question from the committee about whether students typically go onto professional or medical school. Answer -This is rare, but exceptions to allow different courses (ie: Physics 208) would be considered if necessary for continued education
- Question from the committee about the implementation plan. Answer- These changes will be effective for students declaring in the fall 2017 term and currently declared students will be allowed to opt in to the new requirements, but will need to do so in an entire package.

Vote: 6-approved- 0-denied 0-abstained

Action: Approve

4. Proposed changes to the Entomology Major effective fall 2017 – Sean Schoville and Sara Rodock

Motion to approve: Gould; Albrecht

* indicates proposal is returning to the Curriculum Committee for additional review

- These changes will be effective for fall 2017 and have been approved by the Department
- The department previously narrowed the focus of the curriculum which resulted in decreased enrollment
- Some students are interested in pursuing careers in Natural Resources and therefore do not require the same rigor in the curriculum. The rigor of the current curriculum has deterred these students from declaring.
- Students who intend to pursue Vet, Med, or other professional schools will have the ability to take more rigorous coursework.
- The department has a history of strong advising and students will be advised on which courses will best align with their post-graduation goals
 - Students are assigned both a staff and faculty advisor
 - All students are required to discuss their 4 year plan as well as career goals with an advisor
 - Students declaring at SOAR typically enroll in a FIG and receive advising from the instructor, Dan Young
 - The majority of students declare as part of the internal transfer process and are required to meet with Sara Rodock to discuss
- Question from the committee about whether or not 400 -600 level Entomology courses will need basic foundational knowledge of physics. The answer to this question varies based on the course and instructor. Students will still be required to take first semester physics, which will provide a basic foundational understanding
 - Entomology 632, 633, and 634 all require OChem, but few students take these courses
- Concern from the committee that Genetics 466 is not required, which is felt to be essential for understanding the basic concepts of evolution
 - Although Genetics 466 does provide an introduction to understanding evolution, this is not the only course that does so
 - Previously, Genetics 160 was the course that was intended for students not declared in Genetics, but this has been discontinued
 - EVO BIO 400 is the recommended option for students who are interested in a Natural Resources career path in Entomology. BIO 151 also offers a basic introduction to evolution
- Question from the committee about why these are not advertised as tracks. Campus does not officially recognize tracks, and the preference of Academic Affairs is that they not be used. The department's history of strong advising will address how students will know which courses to take depending on their ultimate post-graduation goals

Vote: 6-approved 0-denied 0 abstained

Action: Approve

5. Proposed change to the CALS Residency Policy effective fall 2017 – Nikki Bollig

Motion to Approve: Lenertz-Lindemer, Choi

- Currently, the Residency Policy requires that students take their final 30 credits at UW Madison, or as part of a UW Madison Study Abroad program, with a CALS classification
- The proposed policy would require that students take 30 credits as at UW Madison, or as part of a UW Madison Study Abroad program, after 86 credits. This policy would affect all CALS students across all departments.
- There are three distinct purposes for the current Residency Policy
 - Campus is in line with Federal Law; which requires that all students take at least 30 credits at UW Madison in order to earn the degree.
 - Schools and Colleges must be in compliance with this minimum requirement, but all have versions of their own Residency Policy
 - Consistency with other Schools and Colleges across campus
 - The current policy requires that the credits are taken during the final 30 credits. This is in line with most Schools and Colleges interpretation that the minimum 30 credits during the latter part of the student's career

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- CALS is considered a bit of an outlier in that it is one of two colleges that require the credits to be taken with the college classification- the other being the College of Engineering
 - The proposed policy would be more in line with L&S, which requires 30 credits at UW Madison after 90 credits
 - The CALS classification has been a part of the residency requirement in order to ensure that students have a signature CALS experience
 - The signature CALS experience can be defined as participation in research, study abroad, and department level activities.
 - Students can still have the experience without the current residency policy
- Academic Affairs has noticed many exception requests to this policy that fall into one of two categories
 - One exception is due to late internal transfer, defined as transfer after completing 86 credits. Students are currently required to get permission from a Dean on Call in order to transfer as a senior. The Residency Policy must be determined separately, making Dean on Call approval redundant.
 - The other exception is related to students taking coursework at another campus during their senior year and essentially interrupting the requirement. The proposal would allow students to interrupt the Residency Requirement without requesting an exception.
 - This is the most common exception request and is granted in nearly every case. This is also unfair to students who are unaware that they can request an exception.
 - Exceptions may still be requested, but would be rare under the new policy
- Question from the Committee about why this is not campus wide- Answer is that campus is in line with the federal policy and that while some policies have been looked at to ensure consistency across campus, CALS took the initiative to evaluate our residency policy independently

Vote: 7-approved 0-denied 0- abstained

Action: Approve

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6. Blend @UW – Lenertz-Lindemer
 - Lisa has been participating in a Blended Learning Fellowship and learning about teaching in a more effective way
 - Lisa recommends the week long summer program put on by DO IT, and has more information for those that are interested
7. Transition to Canvas - Lenertz-Lindemer
 - All instructors will be required to transition to canvas. D2L is the current software
 - Lisa is enrolled in an professional certification in online education
 - Lisa is willing to help Instructors with the transition
 - One flaw of the system is the inability to upload scantrons