

CALS Curriculum Committee Minutes
2 March 2010
12 pm Rm 240 Agriculture Hall

Attending: Pelegri, Scheufele, Paustian, Kurtz, Pfatteicher, Gillian-Daniel, Verbeten, Stier, Howell, Bednarek, Grummer

Approved minutes from 9 February 2010

Announcements

IRE Grant deadline-CALS has 3 courses that count for ethnic studies, 2 of which haven't been taught for years. IRE funds new courses. All depts. received information. CALS encourages depts. to submit and develop new ethnic studies course(s).

Business

Supporting letters from AAE (email), CES, dairy science, biochem, CASI others? Agronomy and microbiology appear supportive. Letters can be either from chair or curric comm.. Micro votes March 22. Want letters in hand to give to UAPC.

Dietram moved acceptance of proposal, second by Robin. "Accept the CALS BS degree proposal in its current form as of 2 March 2010"

Discussion

Are we voting on document or concept? Bob Ray had indicated at chairs committee to vote on it as a concept. Sarah clarified that we are voting on document, but that changes within the document could be done by CALS Curriculum committee at some point in future w/out all-faculty vote. Not clear distinction on what requires all-faculty vote, just "a substantive change". Distilling 4 degrees into 1 seems a substantive change.

Also will vote on what constitutes a quorum. L&S has provided support letter. APC will have this motion.

Evelyn and Sarah clarified that college requirements will remain same for the professional degrees.

Asked about double-counting: courses can be double counted between major and college requirements. Campus rules allow this; CALS has existing rules against double counting which we're getting rid of. Potentially students could triple count, e.g., Biol 151 for major, college, and Comm B. Some depts. can simply list different requirements so in practice this hasn't been a problem.

Does it make sense to simply state we're removing restrictions on double counting to align with campus (example in proposal actually conflates university w college requirements). We will go in and make this change. Sarah will need to footnote RE dual degrees.

Is there a maximum number of credits a major can require? No, just a minimum (15)

Reviewing the curriculum: basic elements of current curriculum are > 30 yrs old. Should we have in the proposal an intended assessment of the curriculum? Discussion ensued. A desire was indicated to not obfuscate the proposal. Questions posed about to whom a suggestion for curriculum review would be directed. Decided we already have a mechanism in place to review (i.e., curriculum committee) if desired in the future.

Motion passed unanimously.

All college vote

People can participate via web or phone to vote as long as they have opportunity to hear and add to the discussion. CALS is figuring out methods, e.g., conference call, individual call-in code. Downside-challenging for people via phone to participate and orchestrate discussion. Alternative is website, e.g., Adobe Connect—could use chat room. Can feed visual and audio to conference room. Dietram has used it. DoIT bought a site license for the UW-Madison which lasts for a couple-few years.

Questioned if it was worth doing this. Are we worried about quorum or people being out of town? Some felt only a few people out of town would bother to call in. Best to minimize costs.

Extension/research faculty should be encouraged to attend. University committee ad hoc report indicates shared governance comes with rights and responsibilities, including participating in governance whether it clearly and directly affects one or not. Felt this was important point and should be included in marketing/proposal effort in a non-threatening way.

We'll need to track callers if we need to do a roll call in case voice vote is not clear.

Knowing length of the meeting will help. Hour and one-half scheduled. Could be much shorter.

Can someone call for a quorum after the vote? Yes, presumably. Will have a parliamentarian on hand to help deal with such issues.

Marketing the all-college vote:

Placing order for "BuckyPucks". Eat after the vote in the hallway.

Quorum questions: have list of faculty, do we count those on sabbatical? On leave? Zero dollar appt? CALS is determining answers.

The introduction will be motion from committee to approve; desire focused discussion and voting without debate on minor or off-track points.

Biochem will send messages to their faculty the day before and the day of the vote.

Suggestion that persons could go door to door the day of the meeting; some faculty felt this was not appropriate.

Stier should send message to all faculty discussing advantages of proposal and importance of showing up to vote: more flexible and allow students to craft their majors. Other comment: need to remain neutral. Ultimately, state what we're doing and what basic framework is. Point out that departments will have zero to minor changes for their major requirements. Be enthusiastic about it, not neutral so much. Indicate steps we've taken, iterations we've had, votes from depts....one last step, whether tied to curriculum issues or not—please show up.

Message needs to emphasize need to show up for vote.

Parliamentary procedures allow timeliness of meeting for voting purposes—Evelyn thinks we can schedule vote for certain time, e.g., vote will take place no later than 3:50 pm. [N.B. this was confirmed as possible and added to all-faculty meeting agenda.]

Student council will vote on proposal tonight.

All college meeting at 3 pm Ebling Auditorium on Tuesday March 23.

Motion to adjourn by Dietram, second by Sebastian.

Adjourned 1:10 pm