

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
December 8, 2014
230 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, 3:00 PM

Present: J. Arthur; G. Chandler-Smith; C. Clemenz for R. Sumichrast; A. Dickow; M. Finn; J. Guthrie for L. Geyer; M. Hajj; S. Hirt; R. Holloway; A. Knoblauch; G. Long for L.N. Chang; B. Martin; S. Martin (Chair); Z. Montgomery; A. Schoka; J. Sible; A. Smith; D. Smith; D. Stauffer; R. Stephens for E. Spiller; S. Sumner for Alan Grant; E. Westman for R. Benson; P. Deck for G. Yee; A. Zink-Sharp.

Absent with Notification: L. Geyer; G. Kirk; D. Tewari

Absent without Notification: C. Clarke; T. Meyer; C. Schwing

Visitors: W. Ashton; S. Biscotte; G. Costello; W. Hankins Dean; K. Gilbert; S. Hensell; M. Preston; H. Thomas

Call to Order and Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Stephen Martin, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

Announcement of Approval and Posting of Minutes

Stephen Martin announced the Nov. 10, 2014 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website:

http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/2014-2015/CUSP_Minutes_November_10_2014_Meeting_FINAL_as_of_NOV_14_11_AM.pdf

New Business

Resolution 2014-15.H, *Resolution to Revise Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 125 (University Core Curriculum/Curriculum for Liberal Education (CLE) (PPM 240))*

The motion was made and seconded to present for first reading Resolution 2014-15.H, *Resolution to Revise Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 125 (University Core Curriculum/Curriculum for Liberal Education (CLE) (PPM 240))*. First effective date: Students entering Fall 2016 and thereafter.

R. Stephens reviewed highlights of UCCLE memo to “Members of the University Community” dated November 17, 2014 (Resource “UCCLE Gen Ed memo11_17-14”)

Discussion occurred regarding the following topics:

- G. Chandler-Smith highlighted feedback presented to her by B. Hausman (resource “UCCLE Pathways Revision Recommendations Hausman 12-4-14”):
 - Request for more specific learning outcomes.
 - Request for clarification between indicators and outcomes for critical thinking.
 - Concern that previous ethical reasoning concern had not been addressed.
- A. Dickow reviewed previously-presented concerns from Faculty Senate:
 - Allocation of resources toward implementation of CLE, with respect to advising.
 - Learning outcomes leading to better learning – clarification on assessment expectations.
 - Possible mismatch between CLE goals and learning objectives
 - Potential for increase of total degree hours related to impacting timely graduation of students.
- J. Sible presented that meetings held with colleges and departments to review impact to checksheets did not identify increase credit hours.
- R. Holloway outlined commitment of Provost Office to resource proposed Pathways: General Education:
 - Current funding model and proposed Pathways: General Education funding model.
 - Opportunities will be provided for professional development, throughout the implementation phase, and ongoing thereafter.
 - Provost Office will have ongoing conversations with colleges with respect to moving forward with implementation.
- G. Long thanked UCCLE for all their efforts thus far, and asked for further clarification on principle item #7 of Resolution 2014-15.H, regarding guidelines for course approvals.
- J. Sible presented that meetings had been held between members of UCCLE and COS representatives, and that she is willing to have additional meetings with COS on this subject.
- E. Westman thanked the UCCLE for their hard work, and highlighted points raised by College of Engineering:
 - Concerns related to implementation plan.
 - Concerns related to budget support.
- A. Dickow stressed the point that budget related to implementation seems to be

a primary issue, and encouraged more transparency as to how budgeting is and will be structured.

- R. Holloway responded, citing structure already in place, whereby funds come to the colleges, then the Deans decide allocation within their respective colleges.
- A. Schoka highlighted letter of support drafted by representatives of the Virginia Tech Student Government Association (Resource “SGA Pathways 11_17_2014”):
 - Citing overall positive support by SGA for the proposal.
 - Flexibility of Pathways minors seen as favorable.
 - Request for clarification concerning approval for courses, minors, study-abroad, and tuition.
 - Clarification requested related to alternative pathways.
 - Clarification requested related to concern related to any potential to extend time to graduation.
- Chair S. Martin clarified that implementation date for the proposal will be Fall 2016.
- J. Sible reiterated that during transition years, the prior CLE and new CLE will be mapped, for clear substitutions of courses, toward degree requirements.
- S. Sumner raised question on Resolution 2014-15.H item # 5, with respect to wording of “every course approved to meet general education requirements incorporates learning in Ethical Reasoning and/or Intercultural and Global Awareness”. Practicality of this concept being expected of all courses would be challenging.
- UCCLE offered to rephrase the resolution for second reading, to clarify expectations of item # 5.

Resolution 2014-15.H second reading will occur at the CUSP meeting, Monday, January 26, 2015. Chair S. Martin presented that if CUSP members have suggestions, language clarifications, amendments, etc., that they should send to Office of the University Registrar staff for posting to resources prior to Jan. 26, 2015 meeting.

Reports and Minutes from Commission Committees/Sub-Committees

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Gena Chandler-Smith announced the report of the University Curriculum Committee meeting of Nov. 14, 2014 was approved electronically Nov. 21, 2014. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report of Nov. 14, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

UCC Report – November 14, 2014

**For “Second Reading”
Non-Unanimous Approval**

Courses

New:

Spring 2015

College of Engineering

ECE 4424 Machine Learning (CM-1802)

**For “First and Second Reading”
Unanimous Approval**

Courses

New:

Spring 2015

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

CRIM 3474 Women and Crime (CM-1907)

Fall 2015

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

HIST 1515, 1516 History of Africa (CM-1908)

College of Science

PHYS 2114 Black Holes (CM-1890)

Revised:

Spring 2015

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

WGS 2264 (SOC 2264) (AFST 2264) Race, Class, Gender, and
Sexualities (CM-1903)

**For “First and Second Reading”
Unanimous Approval**

Degrees, Majors, Options, Minors

Minors

Discontinued:

Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2014

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Discontinue Minor in Agricultural and Applied Economics (AMMN). Last term and year for granting minor Fall 2014 (CM-1901)

Discontinue Minor in Agricultural and Applied Economics (SBMN). Last term and year for granting minor Fall 2014 (CM-1900)

Effective Graduating Calendar Year 2017

College of Liberal Arts and Human Science

Discontinue Minor in Humanities and the Arts (HART). Last term and year for granting minor Fall 2017 (CM-1902)

University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)

Robert Stephens presented the minutes of the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education dated November 5, 2014 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education minutes of November 5, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Robert Stephens presented the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report dated November 5, 2014 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to approve the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report of November 5, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Report
University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education
November 5, 2014

For Approval:

RLCL 1904: Religion and Culture in Asia (Area 2)

STL 2304: Legal Foundations of Intellectual Property (Area 3)

Robert Stephens presented the minutes of the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education dated December 3, 2014 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education minutes of December 3, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Robert Stephens presented the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report dated December 3, 2014 to the commission. Motion was made and seconded to approve the University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education report of December 3, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Report
University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education
December 3, 2014

For Approval:

RLCL 1004: Investigations on Religion and Culture (Areas 3 and 7)

University Athletics Committee

Susan Sumner presented the minutes of the University Athletics Committee, dated October 22, 2014. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Athletics Committee minutes of Oct. 22, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Other Business

Motion was made and seconded to **Table** >5-Year Untaught Course Report by commission, citing resource not being posted prior to Dec. 8, 2014 meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary S. Kinder
Office of the University Registrar