University Curriculum Committee  
Minutes  
December 12, 2014

Members Present: Brighouse, Fadl (arrived 10:00), Green, Howard, Ingham (departed 10:30), Murphy, Smith, Taylor, Weimer, Wilkerson

Absent: Brown, Marker

The meeting began at: 9:30 am

Summary of actions:
- Proposals 3, 5 - 24 were approved
- Proposal 4 was conditionally approved
- Proposals 1 and 2 were deferred

I. Consent item – Minutes of the November 21, 2014 meeting  
Motion by Ingham to approve, unanimously approved.

II. Graduate Course Attribute Project  
Young provided a brief update on the status of the project to add a course attribute to graduate level courses numbered 300-699. A total of 6734 (5546 unique courses) were sent to 146 subject owners in 12 schools or colleges and naturally there were differences in the ways the subject owners interpreted the meaning of a graduate level course. In the interest of making sure the schools and colleges have a clear understanding of how the UCC will evaluate the courses, the committee discussed its expectations.

The committee decided that it will want to see some evidence on the course syllabus that the course is taught at a graduate level. If the course enrolls a mixture of undergraduate and graduate students, the syllabus should include information about how graduate students are assessed separately. It is acceptable for departments to have a department level policy about courses that are offered primarily for undergraduates but may from time to time enroll graduate students where the instructor and the graduate student(s) will devise an appropriate study plan on a case-by-case basis. If this department level policy option is used, the syllabi for all courses with the graduate course attribute must include a statement outlining the policy. The committee also suggested that faculty could make use of independent study courses where undergraduate course lectures are used to supplement individualized graduate level study. Young will communicate this information to the curriculum coordinators in the schools and colleges.
III. Procedures of the Committee document  
Motion by Ingham second by Howard to approve the UCC Operating Procedures document, unanimously approved.

IV. Selection of vice chair  
Members support naming Phil Brown vice chair of the committee. Since he was absent, Taylor will contact him to discuss his willingness to serve as vice chair for the balance of this academic year and as chair for the 2015-16 academic year. If Brown is unable to, Brighouse has agreed to serve.

V. Annual Report  
Motion by Brighouse second by Smith to approve the 2013-14 UCC Annual Report, unanimously approved.

VI. English course proposals – Caroline Levine  
The committee discussed issues of disciplinary boundaries with Prof. Levine, chair of the English Department. While reviewing a number of proposals submitted under the English subject listing, the committee has had questions about whether some courses are appropriately taught by the English Department. Historically the department has limited its literature offerings to literary works written originally in English. However, the over the past year and a half, the English Department has restructured its course array while implementing a new undergraduate curriculum. The new curriculum recognizes that the field is moving away from national literary traditions toward a more global perspective including literature in translation. This may impinge on material covered by other departments.

The implementation of a new budget model that rewards increasing the number of credit hours taught by a department could create incentives for teaching courses that might be considered outside of the traditional boundaries of a discipline. For large departments like English which includes literature, language and linguistics, creative writing and composition determining appropriate boundaries is difficult. Additionally while interdisciplinary endeavors are encouraged (for example the disability cluster) this is not necessarily what is rewarded. Levine emphasized the English Department’s desire to collaborate with others on campus and not “poach” students. This is an issue that the committee will discuss again in the future; all agreed that we do not want to get to a situation where we impose barriers to appropriate movement of students or faculty across boundaries.

VII. Course proposal review  
Motion by Howard, second by Brighouse to approve all course proposals. Votes are recorded following each agenda item.

A. Review Agenda  
Deferred from previous meeting  
1. English 543 Discourses of Disability, Antiquity to 1800  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Brighouse  
Action: Table for further discussion
2. English 544  Modern Discourses of Disability  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Brighouse  
**Action: Table for further discussion**

3. Envir St - Gaylord Nelson Inst 979  Environmental Conservation Professional Practice  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Green  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

**New Proposals**

4. Agriculture and Applied Econ 776  Practicum in Resource and Energy Demand Analysis II  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Marker  
**Action: Conditionally Approved – The proposer is asked to amended the syllabus to provide a greater level of detail in the course schedule.**

5. Art Department 256  Introduction to Typography  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Wilkerson  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

6. Art Department 463  Information Graphics  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Taylor  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

7. Art Department 560  Graphic Design Senior Thesis Project and Exhibition  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Howard  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

8. History 118  Early Modern World  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Brown  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

9. Industrial & Systems Engr 450  Senior Design Project  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Smith  
**Action: Unanimously approved - A friendly suggestion to provide more information about the reference materials was made. Are there general reference materials that will be used each time regardless of the client/project?**

10. Mechanical Engineering 445  Mechatronics in Control & Product Realization  
Type: New Course  
Reviewer: Fadl  
**Action: Unanimously approved**

11. Medical Physics 578  Non-Ionizing Diagnostic Imaging
B. Consent Agenda
Howard moved; Brighouse seconded. All course changes on the consent agenda were approved unanimously.

Arts & Humanities
12. Art Department 556  Graphic Design for Interactive Media
   Type: Change credits, prerequisite

Biological Sciences
13. Biochemistry 100  Biochemistry Freshman Seminar
   Type: Change description

14. Biochemistry 621  Plant Biochemistry
   Type: Change description, prerequisite

15. Biochemistry 914  Seminar-Molecular Biosciences (Advanced)
   Type: Change prerequisite

16. Comparative Biosciences 990  Research
   Type: Change credits

17. Pharmacy 638  Nonprescription Medications
   Type: Change subject, title, description

Physical Sciences
18. Mechanical Engineering  Rapid Prototyping and Advanced Manufacturing
   Type: Change title

Social Studies
19. Curriculum and Instruction 498  Student Teaching in the Middle School
   Type: Change number

20. Envir St - Gaylord Nelson Inst 972  Conservation Planning
   Type: Change credits

21. Sociology 360  Statistics for Sociologists I
   Type: Change description, prerequisite

Discontinuation
22. Agronomy 345  Practicum in Agri-science Education
   Type: Discontinue

23. Agronomy 445  Student Teaching in Agri-science Education
VIII. New Business

A. Discussion of appropriate disciplinary boundaries
   Tabled due to time.

B. Creation of a committee to study issue of credit hours
   Steve Cramer, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, has offered to recommend additional
   members to work with a UCC ad hoc sub-committee which will study the issue of how credit hours
   are defined and operationalized. The UCC agreed that a sub-committee to work on this issue was
   appropriate. Ingham, Murphy and Taylor volunteered to serve.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.