

Minutes, COLA Curriculum Meeting, 12/4/07, 10:00 a.m.

Attendance: A. Coon, B. Elahi, C. Kray, D. Neumann, R. Pugliese, L. Rubel, R. Santana.
Also Present: Paul Ferber

10:02

Minutes were not ready and possibly in need of “revision” (copier tied up)

Discussion began regarding what to present at the upcoming faculty meeting

Babak suggested that I.B. 2. be a brief description with more detail be posted on the student site

Babak recalled what we agreed to at the last meeting since there were no minutes presently available and suggested that we apply the criteria of 2005 to each core course

Paul considers the brief description “wise” but expresses concern that someone might object to someone other than faculty being in charge of the curriculum (Smithgall’s office takes care of the student site)

Paul raised the issue of courses not approved that are presently being used to satisfy core requirements

Babak explained that we agreed that all courses are to be approved by the CCC

Paul argues that it begs the question of what turned up on the more detailed list that students consult for requirements

Paul suggests that “departments offering courses not approved by the committee be given a deadline for submission or be taken off the list”

Since Paul isn’t on the committee he couldn’t make a motion, so Rudy put the suggestion in the form of a motion

A lengthy discussion ensued:

The question of ICC format was raised

A question arose as to how the courses wound up on the books in the first place

Paul recalled that during a faculty meeting Franz Foltz called attention to the fact that a number of the core courses were never approved and no one objected

Babak suggested that we wait before taking that approach with a “cooling off” period

Paul suggested that we be prepared to address the issue if it comes up during the faculty meeting

Richard suggested that we ask them for submission without a deadline. We can impose the deadline later

Paul opined that there is nothing wrong with asking for the outlines and that some departments might even comply!

Ann solemnly intoned that we be mindful of the consequences

Paul declaimed that they should stay on the books for the duration of the academic year and that we announce the “plan” of what we are to do with the unapproved courses at the upcoming faculty meeting

Christine reported there are more than just four courses and since any 300 course counts, there are others being used to satisfy core requirements

Paul asked where these are coming from

Christine points out that the source is none other than the undergraduate bulletin

Both agreed that it’s a mess

Babak concluded we need a more formal and sustained revision of the student services’ version of the curriculum

All agreed that if we blame the undergraduate bulletin it might take some of the heat off of us

Babak asked if we want to ask for the course outlines with an eye toward reviewing them

Christine suggested that we limit them to the courses in question

Paul cautioned that we avoid the impression that courses that have already been approved will be caught in the “dragnet” of the approval process

The issue of Introduction to Environmental Studies was raised (I’m not sure by whom)

Rudy reported that the COLA CCC never approved it as a core course but perhaps the College of Science did since it was part of their General Education requirements

Dave suggested that we report that we have course outlines for only certain courses and that we need to complete our records and impose a deadline

The motion was stated as follows:

“In May of 2005, the COLA faculty approved the following courses as core courses. For courses not on the list, departments must submit documentation of approval as a core course by the COLA or submit the course in ICC format for approval.”

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously

It was observed that it bears a striking resemblance to the motion unanimously passed at the previous CCC meeting:

“Given that the core courses listed in the Bulletin are incorrectly listed we have a limited list of courses that have been approved by the faculty, the College Curriculum Committee moves that departments offering core courses submit an ICC formatted description of these courses. Those courses that were approved should just resubmit a clean copy of the last version.”

Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was seconded and passed

Meeting adjourned at 11:15, but an informal discussion followed regarding the Public Policy core course.

-Rudy Pugliese