

Approved April 23, 2013

**College of Arts and Sciences
COMMITTEE ON THE CURRICULUM**

**Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2013**

Present: Andy Bernstein, Jerusha Detweiler-Bedell, Jim Grant, Dan Kelley, Beth Scalettar, Freddy Vilches, Sara Rangel, Julia Yeckes, Kim Ulrich, recorder.

Absent: Judy Finch, Jeff Feld-Gore, Tuajuanda Jordan, Peter Kennedy, Joel Martinez

The meeting was convened at 3:32 p.m.

The minutes from April 9 were unanimously approved.

I. Course Proposal Subcommittee

EINV 201 Introduction to Entrepreneurship & Innovation

This is a new course; this course does not fulfill a Gen Ed requirement.

ENVS 350 Environmental Theory

This is a new course; this course does not fulfill a Gen Ed requirement.

MUS 307 Advanced Seminar in Music

This is a new course; this course fulfills the Creative Arts Gen Ed requirement.

The courses were unanimously approved.

II. Calendar and Faculty Meeting Process

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell updated the committee about progress regarding the compromise solution for scheduling commencement. She reported that after seeking input from chairs and directors about scheduling events on Friday and Saturday morning (in order to allow for a Saturday afternoon commencement ceremony), she did not receive any negative responses. It was also confirmed that the proposed schedule would not conflict with graduation at the grad and law schools in the foreseeable future.

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell consulted with faculty outside of the committee to determine the best way to approach this motion at the next faculty meeting according to Robert's Rules. It was decided the best approach would be to explain the three stage voting option outlined at the last meeting, then ask if there would be any objection to withdrawing the original motion and replacing it with the new motion. Because this new motion would be considered new business, the faculty

would then vote to suspend the rules in order to treat this as old business again. The committee agreed this would be the most efficient way to move forward.

Although there were no concerns expressed about the Saturday afternoon commencement & departmental/program events in response to Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell's email to the chairs and directors, two individuals did raise different concerns. The first concern revisited the issue of students being forced off campus immediately after graduation. Associate Dean Grant stated that the college could allow students to leave campus on Monday following graduation, which had been done in the past (up until this year), so having the extra day between commencement and leaving campus would not cost the College additional money. He noted this option would cause some staff to work on Sunday, but this number would be significantly lower than if commencement were held on Sunday. Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell confirmed this was an option the committee could recommend.

The second concern brought to Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell's attention regarded the wording of the email in calling Sunday a "day off" rather than a reading day. The concerned individual believes this phrasing lends itself to religious connotations. The committee agreed that this phrasing could be problematic and should be changed, but decided to table the issue in order to focus on the main calendar issue this year.

III. General Education and Exploration & Discovery Recommendations

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell updated the committee based on reports from Co-Chair Martinez. Co-Chair Martinez was unable to find digital copies of Spring syllabi to review; Librarian Kelley stated he might be able to access some. Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell reviewed the syllabi subgroup suggestion from the E&D steering committee and Librarian Kelley confirmed that he would be part of the group with Co-Chair Martinez and Dr. Bernstein.

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell stated that this change would have a large impact on the course proposal subcommittee, as they would be responsible for reviewing each course submitted for the hybrid model. Dr. Bernstein asked if the steering committee should be responsible for this part of the process. Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell confirmed that they would do the majority of the work by determining if courses would count towards Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities, or Math and Natural Sciences; however, all courses affecting Gen Ed are still required to go through the course proposal subcommittee for approval.

IV. Status of CS102

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell circulated an email from Director Black outlining her concerns and recommendations in regards to CS 102 being offered next year.

Co-Chair Detweiler Bedell asked if the committee needed any additional material to help clarify this issue before the next meeting. Dr. Bernstein thought the material was thorough enough and the committee agreed. This discussion was held for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

The next meeting will be April 23 in Albany 220.