COMMITTEE ON THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM (CUC)
Sixth Meeting/2011-12 Academic Year
April 12, 2012
Approved

PRESENT: A. Birberick (Ex-officio, vice-provost), J. Gray-Stanley (HHS/NUHS), M. Lenczewski (LAS/GEOL/Chair), B. Pitney (EDU/KNPE), B. Rohl (EDU/KNPE/Student), F. Solares-Larrave (LAS/FL--), R. Tatara (EET/TECH)

CONSULTANTS: S. Smaldino (CITC representative), D. Smith (Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator)

GUESTS: N. Castle (NGOLD), S. Doederlein (associate dean, CLAS), L. Elish-Piper (chair, Literacy Education)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Solares-Larrave made a motion, seconded by Pitney, to APPROVE THE AGENDA. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Approved minutes from February 9, 2012.
2. Items previously in Section B, now reported for inclusion in the 2012-13 Undergraduate Catalog.

INTRODUCTIONS

Due to guests in attendance, introductions were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Rohl made a motion, seconded by Solares-Larrave, TO REMOVE THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION #11 MINUTES/ATTACHMENT FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA. Motion passed unanimously. Pitney made a motion, seconded by Solares-Larrave, to APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. The motion passed unanimously. The following college minutes with no undergraduate-level curricular items were so received.

College of Business #7
College of Business #8
College of Business #9
College of Education #8
College of Education #10

The following college minutes with undergraduate-level curricular items were so received.

College of Business #10
College of Education #9
The undergraduate catalog change in these minutes is a name change proposal for the Department of Literacy Education to the Department of Literacy, Learning and Culture. Elish-Piper explained that due to the college’s reorganization last year, the department has received faculty from elementary education, many who specialize in the sciences and social sciences. And the literacy faculty have expertise in areas such as bilingual and ESL and multicultural education. Discussions on the mission of the department resulted in the proposed name change. She added that the campus community was notified of the proposal at several points in the process, asking for a response if there were any issues with the new department name. The dean also met with the provost. Lenczewski stated that it looks like the department has consulted with all the necessary areas, from administration to other university departments. Pitney made a motion, seconded by Solares-Larrave, TO APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION #11 (2/21/12) PENDING PRESIDENT PETERS’S APPROVAL. Motion passed unanimously.

New course proposals were noted. It was clarified that ENVS 315/GEOG 315X is a revised new course proposal that initially was proposed with CLAS #8. The Department of Technology has confirmed that there is no duplication with any of their courses. The items that also need approval from the Academic Policies and Admissions Standards Committee (APASC) were discussed. It was noted that there is no rationale for the B requirement for ENGL 300C. Smith will attempt to obtain that from the department prior to the next APASC meeting. Rohl asked about new courses from the Department of Political Science and will students who took the topic under POLS 414 be allowed to enroll in the new courses. Smith will be sure Registration and Records is aware that these courses (POLS 312 and POLS 314) used to be topics under POLS 414. It was noted that the School of Law was consulted regarding verification of nonduplication. Rohl made a motion, seconded by Pitney, TO APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES #9 (2/15/12) PENDING APASC APPROVAL. Motion passed unanimously.

Included in an addendum to CLAS #10 are changes to the catalog that are the result of a proposal for a School of Public and Global Affairs. As part of that proposal, the Division of Public Administration will become the Department of Public Affairs and will move to the new school, as will the Department of Political Science and the Center for Non-Governmental Organizations Leadership and Development. The programs associated with these areas will also move to the new school along with the minor in Public Administration. Doederlein explained that the catalog changes were approved at the January 18, 2012, CLAS meeting pending approval of faculty
from all the areas, which was received in the last couple of weeks. She added that President Peters, Provost Alden, and CLAS Dean McCord are all supportive of the new school and its organization, and that NIU is the last university with a public administration program to move towards having it housed in a school. It was clarified that there is no change to the actual curriculum other than a short paragraph defining the school. Castle reported that the NGOLD steering committee voted in favor of inclusion in the school and its bylaws. Also in these minutes are new course proposals and a new certificate of undergraduate proposal. Solares-Larrave made a motion, seconded by Rohl, to APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES #10 AND ITS ADDENDUMS (3/21/12) PENDING APASC, GEC, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND IBHE APPROVAL. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Adding/deleting courses from another college/checking on course capacity. See #2 below.

2. APPM Changes. Lenczewski explained that there have been a number of issues discussed by the CUC over the last couple of years that need to be addressed in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual (APPM), such as informing other departments regarding course deletions and requirements for a minor. Birberick added that it has become apparent that other committees that report to the Undergraduate Coordinating Council (UCC) also have issues that should be addressed. For example, one of the duties of the General Education Committee (GEC) is to review resubmissions of courses for general education credit. However, the APPM does not address what the GEC can do if a department either does not provide this report, or does not address any concerns of the GEC in a timely matter. A complete list of these issues was provided to the CUC. The plan is to have the chairs of three of the UCC committees (CUC, APASC, and GEC) work on aligning the APPM to the duties of each committee as well as make suggestions for addressing other concerns and general clean-up of appropriate language. Lenczewski asked CUC members to let her know if they have anything to add to the list. Any specific changes will be brought back to the CUC for discussion and approval. Pitney wanted to be sure that checking on course capacity in other departments was addressed. Tatara suggested that there be a mechanism for deleting courses that aren’t being offered. If a course hasn’t been offered for a certain period, or won’t be offered in the near future, it shouldn’t be listed in the catalog and mislead students to thinking it’s available. There was a brief discussion regarding why obsolete courses are left on the books (e.g., easier to keep and revise at a later date). There were questions about the new curricular process and it was confirmed that the Vibe system will be used starting with the 2012-13 academic year. The status on the research of what other universities require for a second degree was brought up. It was noted that Dave Changnon began that research and Birberick will follow-up.

3. CLAS #8. These minutes have been retracted by the college. The only curricular item has been replaced by new course proposals in CLAS #9.
NEW BUSINESS

1. Contract majors and KNPE 100 letter-suffixed courses. Smith explained that the CUC receives this report every year. Each college is to report on their contract majors from the previous (2010-11) academic year to note trends in majors and suggest possible new degree programs. A similar report is collected from the College of Education regarding the KNPE 100 letter suffixed courses. Smith noted that in the past years there have been a number of sections offered in fitness walking. This might be something the CUC could suggest be proposed as an actual course. Pitney explained that the department had a faculty member who was interested in teaching the course, but the individual is no longer with NIU, so that section will no longer be offered. With regards to contract majors, there does seem to be a trend in LA&S for contract majors in women’s and gender studies and Southeast Asian studies. It was reported that the college did propose new degrees in these areas. However, the provost office felt that due to budget limitations, this was not a good time to be spending resources on new degree programs.

2. Election of Chair. This was tabled until the September, 2012, meeting due to a lack of quorum when it came time to discuss this agenda item. Lenczewski will continue in the chair’s role until that time, including any work done on the APPM over the summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting will be in September 13, 2012, 12:30, Altgeld 225.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Smith