

Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the Meeting of 21 February 2020
2:00-4.00 P.M.
Room 307, Student Union

Attendance:

Present: S. Abbotson, D. Abrahamson, G. Auger, T. Borgerding, J. Diem, D. Espinosa, J. Magyar, C. McLaughlin, L. Owen, S. Pearlmutter, S. Ross, J. Sawyer, E. Simson, T. Weinstein, S. Zoll.

Excused: D. Hewins, M. Aydogdu, S. Dixon

Absent: Student members: A. Diebold, S. Hackworth

Guests: M. Medwid - Math/CSCI; Lisa Bain - ACCT/CIS; A. Barlow – Library; R. Sparks - Math/CSCI; M.Mumm--SWRK

1. Call to Order: 2:09

2. Motion to Approve minutes: 20 December 2019 (Zoll/Espinosa)

Action: Approved – 1 abstention

3. Report of the Chair

- Classes not taught in the past three or more years; one from FSEHD and 19 from FAS are being deleted, along with the Labor Studies minor.
- Progress on UCC recommendation regarding class sizes: CAPP is working on proposals related to class size to include in the MAPP (Manual on Academic Policies & Procedures). The goal is to bring both the UCC and CAPP proposals forward at the same time to Council later this semester.

Discussion: T. Borgerding will forward to UCC an updated version of the proposal that has a stronger rationale and clearer recommendations for online/hybrid classes (working with COOL on this); UCC will then send this back to CAPP to take to Council

- Executive UCC has decided to have the Provost/VPAA report all new or deleted majors/minors to Council once they have been fully approved so they can be entered into the Council record. First report in March will cover the year so far.

4. Monthly Reports

- COGE; for full report, go to:

http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/documents/COGE_Report_to_UCC_February_2020.pdf

Discussion: J. Magyar explained that COGE had run an informal ad hoc meeting to focus on transfer issues, to try and address them from a student focus, and lean toward accepting skills rather than courses in transfer agreements. S. Pearlmutter also spoke to the current transfer difficulties at the college (G. Auger pointed out many students in COMM transfer in and need CONN, AQSR and a second language, when they had thought their Gen Eds complete). J. Magyar agreed that we need to allow for more flexibility with transfer courses. S. Pearlmutter pointed out that RIC's Gen. Eds are based on courses, but in most other area schools they are outcomes based, and our current Gen Ed. does not seem to well-match the needs of our current student body and may need updating to better reflect this. We have an outcomes framework, but then this becomes course driven rather than outcomes, and is in danger of looking more like grade 13 than a college program. S. Pearlmutter requested that faculty take a look at the Gen Ed. program. UCC acknowledges that a Task Force to review GEN EDs needs to be created, and D. Espinosa asked about a possible timeline and who would be on the Task force. S. Pearlmutter said she will need to check first with the Leadership group and then it can get started. S. Zoll pointed out that we should make sure advising both here and at CCRI know what will transfer or not, and what will be required.

- Writing Board (none this month)

5. Old Business.

Math/CSCI

Motion to Bundle and Approve: 19-20-008, 19-20-012 & 19-20-72 [details below] (Owen/Abrahamson)

- 19-20-008 Approve the creation of a new 65-66 credit program: BS in Data Science, for which some new courses have been created and another revised. [This proposal has been revised since first submitted].
- 19-20-012 Approve the creation of a new course, MATH 460 Seminar in Data Science for use in the new Data Science major.

Discussion: #008 requests approval for the creation of a Data Science major for 65-66 credits for which three new 4 credit courses were approved last semester and two more are being created here. These additional new courses are: #012 MATH 460 Seminar in Data Science, and #072 CSCI 428 Machine Learning.

Action: Approved Unanimously

6. New Business

UCC – Catalog

Motion to Approve 19-20-059 (Espinosa/Auger)

- 19-20-059 Approve the deletion of these courses that have not been offered in three or more years: ANTH 167, ANTH 348, BIOL 420, CURR 347, HSCI 100, HSCI 202, HONR 162, LBRS 201, LBRS 202, LBRS 203, LBRS 204, LBRS 301, LBRS 302, LBRS 303, LBRS 304, LBRS 305, LBRS 306, LBRS 307, PHIL 167; and the entire Labor Studies minor (the faculty who oversaw this has retired); also revisions to AFRI 162 AND COMM 162 (no longer listed as core 3 courses), CHEM 420, and MUS 167 (take out each one's cross-listing with a deleted course). ANTH 167 is being removed as an option in Music programs and from the Gen Ed. lists.

Discussion: #059 Requests the approval to delete these courses that have not been offered in three or more years (none of these are required courses).

Action: Approved Unanimously

Management

Motion to Bundle and Approve: 19-20-060 – 19-20-065 (Magyar/Weinstein)

- 19-20-060 Approve revisions to the Human Resources Management program concentration as previously used courses are increased in credits. Some previous requirements are being dropped and a new course created. The program will go down from 80 to 76 total credits.
- 19-20-061 Approve the addition of one credit to MGT 423 Compensation and Benefits Administration to become a 4-credit course. HCA uses this course but their total credits will not be affected.
- 19-20-062 Delete MGT 424 Employee Relations and Performance Management, as the materials from this course will be spread among other courses in this program that are increasing by a credit.
- 19-20-063 Approve the addition of one credit to MGT 425 Recruitment and Selection to become a 4-credit course. HCA uses this course but their total credits will not be affected.
- 19-20-064 Approve the addition of one credit to MGT 428 Human Resource Development. HCA uses this course but their total credits will not be affected.
- 19-20-065 Approve the creation of a new 4-credit course MGT 430 Strategic Human Resource Management, for use in the revised HR Management concentration.

Discussion: These requests seek to strengthen the HRM program through revision. # 060 Credits will reduce the total credits from 80 to 76 credits. #062 requests the deletion of MGT 424, course content will be used in the following courses. #061 requests the addition of 1 credit as does #063 for MGT 425, and #064 for MGT 428. There will be no impact on HCA which uses these courses. #065 seeks approval for the creation of a new 4 credit MGT 428 Human Resource Development. HCA also will use this course but their total credits will not be affected.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Communication

Motion to Approve 19-20-066 (Ross/Zoll)

- 19-20-066 Approve the deletion of COMM 338 Communication for Health Professionals from the electives for the Public and Professional Communications concentration, as it was added in error.

Discussion: #066 requests approval for the deletion of COMM 338 Communication for Health Professionals from the electives for the Public and Professional Communications concentration, as it was added in error.

Action: Approved Unanimously

School of Social Work

Motion to Approve 19-20-067 (Zoll/Weinstein)

- 19-20-067 Approve the creation of a new elective course: SWRK 411 Yoga and Meditation in Social Work.

Discussion: #067 seeks approval for the creation of SWRK 411 Yoga and Meditation in Social Work, to be offered as an elective. The course does not conflict with the HPE yoga courses because it includes instruction in yoga, and therapy and other social work situations. SWRK 411 is open to graduate students per approval by the Graduate Committee.

Action: Approved Unanimously

English

Motion to Bundle and Approve 19-20-068 - 19-20-071 (Zoll/Espinosa)

- 19-20-068 Approve the creation of a new English major concentration in Public Writing. This will be a 44-credit program that requires an internship.
- 19-20-069 Approve the revision of the Rhetoric and Writing minor into a Public Writing minor; this will be 24 credits.
- 19-20-070 Approve the creation of a new course, ENGL 222 Introduction to Public Writing that will be required in both the Public Writing major and minor.
- 19-20-071 Approve revisions to titles, descriptions, and prerequisites of several ENGL courses to better fit with the new English Public Writing major: courses affected are ENGL 230, 231, 232, 378, 379 and 477.

Discussion: #068 requests approval for the creation of a new English major concentration in Public Writing. This will be a 44-credit program that requires an internship. #069 requests for the revision of the Rhetoric and Writing minor into a Public Writing minor; this will be 24 credits. #070 seeks approval for the creation of a new course, ENGL 222 Introduction to Public Writing that will be required in both the Public Writing major and minor. #071 requests approval for the revisions to titles, descriptions, and prerequisites of several ENGL courses in the new English Public Writing major: courses affected are ENGL 230, 231, 232, 378, 379 and 477. Many of these are used in the School of Business and they have been informed of these new opportunities. G. Auger asked if COMM had been consulted at all over this program. S. Abbotson said that possible overlap had been discussed at an ENGL department meeting and none had been found as this program is addressing different skills. E. Simson said that the proposer had clearly outlined how this program was totally different from COMM's Journalism concentration.

Action: Approved Unanimously

N.B. Approval require collection of remaining acknowledgment signatures)

Computer Information Science

See - Motion to Bundle and Approve: 19-20-008, 19-20-012 & 19-20-72 (Owen/Abrahamson)

- 19-20-072 Approve a new course CSCI 428 Machine Learning that will be used as a required elective in CSCI BA and BS, as well as CIS, and be a required course in the new Data Science major program.

Motion to Bundle and Approve: 19-20-073 - 19-20-75 (Weinstein/Magyar)

- 19-20-073 Approve the revision of prerequisites for CIS 470 Introduction to Data Science to make it more accessible.
- 19-20-074 Approve the revision of prerequisites for CIS 472 Data Visualization to make it more accessible.
- 19-20-075 Approve revisions to the Data Science Minor, which will be raised to 24 credits.

Discussion: #073 Seeks approval for the revision to the prerequisites for CIS 470 Introduction to Data Science. #074 Requests approval for the revision of prerequisites for CIS 472 Data Visualization to make them more accessible. #075 requests approval for revisions to the Data Science Minor to make it more accessible to students outside of CIS, which will be raised to 24 credits. More MATH options will be added to the requirements, along with an additional course (choice of CIS 301 or CSCI 157) to avoid any hidden prerequisites given other changes to the

prerequisites of courses in the program. Allowing additional options for the math courses (MATH 177 or MATH 212 and MATH 240 or MATH 248) will better accommodate all majors and reduce the course substitutions required by the department chair.

Action: Approved Unanimously

History

Motion to Approve 19-20-076 (Espinosa/Magyar)

- 19-20-076 Approve the revision of an old Core 4 course into a Connections: HIST 265 Post-1945 Conflicts in Africa and Globally. New title, description and prerequisites.

Discussion: #076 requests approval to revise an old Gen Ed. Core 4 course into a Connections course: HIST 265 Post-1945 Conflicts in Africa and Globally. HIST 265 will have a new title, description, and prerequisites. D. Espinosa pointed out that in the current climate it has become difficult to create schedules for fulltime faculty, which is why they are looking for more Gen Ed. and cross-disciplinary opportunities.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Sociology (TABLED – Awaiting signatures)

- 19-20-077 Approve the creation of SOC 435 Fieldwork in Sociology to be used as a free elective or a required elective in Sociology major and minor.

VPAA – Catalog and Policy Change

Motion to Approve 19-20-078 (Auger/Sawyer)

- 19-20-078 Approve the removal of a policy from the catalog that enforces students to change their major if they needed to repeat a course more than twice for the one they were in.

Discussion: This proposal seeks approval for the deletion from the catalog a policy (that has not been enforced as it would be detrimental to a student's progression) that requires students to switch to a brand new major if they have to repeat any course for their current major more than twice. **N.B.** (Where is this policy sent after approval? T. Borgerding will check to see if this affects MAPP.)

Action: Approved Unanimously

7. Any Other Business

- Proposal regarding UCC oversight of WID statements and Program Goals/Learning Goals on department/program websites. Assigning constituents, to report to UCC next meeting with progress.

Discussion: Are learning and program goals accessible to students on-line? Does each department have an updated WID statement on their homepage, following the guidelines set by the Writing Board? M. Michaud is collecting the WID statements to present to COGE in a group rather than piecemeal.

8. Motion to adjourn: 3:03 (McLaughlin/Owen)

Minutes Submitted by: Charlie McLaughlin