

MINUTES OF UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA

#678

December 12, 2012

Present: K. Basom, A. Chatham-Carpenter, R. Christ, L. Dykstra, M. Heston, M. Licari, K. Martin, K. Mitchell, L. Strauss, F. Vernescu, D. Wallace

Absent: P. Patton,

Guests: B. Cutter, P. Pease, A. Petrov

The meeting was called to order by Chair Licari at 3:15 p.m. in Presidential Room, Maucker Union.

I. Introduction and Welcome

Chair Licari welcomed members and guests, which was followed by introductions.

II. M.A. Women's and Gender Studies

Chair Licari asked Barbara Cutter to give an overview of the changes to/restructuring of the M.A. in Women's Gender Studies. Chair Licari indicated that while this is a graduate program, since there are 5000-level (formerly 100g-level) courses in this program he wanted UCC to be aware of changes.

Cutter indicated the M.A. in Women's and Gender Studies was required to undergo restructuring Spring 2012 and the changes proposed constitute the restructuring plan. Cutter indicated this plan was created after examination of other WGS programs around the country, student outcomes assessment data, student exit surveys, and consultation with external advisory boards.

Cutter indicated the changes include:

- the creation of a new "applied" non-thesis track with focus areas in women's health and gender and violence prevention;
- revised set of core courses and more course options for feminist theory so core is flexible enough to serve the needs of students in both tracks;
- addition of 1-credit-hour WGS graduate proseminar, which replaces the 1-credit-hour Introduction to Graduate Research in WGS being dropped;
- addition of a new 4-credit-hour internship at 6000-level.

Cutter indicated the M.A. in Women's and Gender Studies was on an expedited curriculum schedule and, if approved, would like changes to be effective as soon as possible.

Chatham-Carpenter moved, Basom seconded to approve all undergraduate-related courses in this proposal for the M.A. Women's and Gender Studies. Question was called on the motion to approve. **Motion carried and M.A. Women's and Gender Studies was approved.**

III. Department of Geography

Chair Licari asked Department of Geography to present their curriculum changes.

A. B.A. Geography

A. Petrov indicated the B.A. in Geography was required to undergo restructuring Spring 2012 and the changes proposed constitute the restructuring plan.

Petrov indicated the B.A. in Geography had four emphases and now the department would be bringing together all emphases into one program with separate concentration areas.

Heston referenced the endorsement in Geography and asked if there were any courses that would not be taught any longer that might affect students trying to obtain the endorsement(s). Heston asked that Department of Geography provide Chad Christopher with a list of courses so he could verify that proposed changes would not affect students getting endorsement(s).

Wallace referenced the statement under the required 21-hours *Concentration*: "*Students must focus on one area; however, they may choose to add an additional concentration(s) to their program, which will be reflected on their transcripts.*".

Wallace asked the following, for Registrar's Office clarification and applying to graduation requirements:

- Is there overlapping of courses among the 3 concentrations;
- Is it the intent of the department that a student could graduate with all three of the concentrations;
- If there is overlapping and it is the intent that a student could graduate with more than one concentration, is there a restriction on the number of hours that can be used from another concentration. Also, if a student can receive more than one concentration and it is to be specifically documented on the transcript with that concentration, a separate "code" will be assigned to each concentration so each appears on transcript at graduation.

Pease and Petrov responded it was the intent that students could receive more than one concentration and possibly would want to place a restriction on overlapping courses.

UCC members concurred that department should review and include appropriate language in the major to clarify/convey that information.

B. Geography Minor

A. Petrov indicated the Geography Teaching minor was eliminated Spring 2012 and the Geography minor (liberal arts) was required to undergo restructuring Spring 2012.

Petrov stated the 4-hour requirement for GEOG 1210 *Physical Geography* was changed to 3 hours, thereby changing the minor from 19 hours to 18 hours. Also, since there is no other Geography minor, "liberal arts" was eliminated from the title.

C. B.S. Geography

Petrov stated the enrollment in the B.S. Geography is growing each year. He stated there have been retirements and to continue to serve those students, the major has been changed to three "applications" rather than four. Petrov stated these three applications will allow the department to serve other students.

Heston questioned if a consultation had been done with Computer Science Department. Petrov responded he thought a consultation was done, but could not confirm that.

UCC determined that confirmation of a consultation with Computer Science was needed.

D. Program Certificate in GIS

Petrov stated the proposed title change for this program certificate is *Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Cartography* [rather than current title *Certificate in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)*].

Petrov also stated the proposed new course GEOG 4390 *GIS Programming*, which will also be part of the B.S. in Geography, has also been added to this program certificate.

UCC members inquired whether this certificate could be taken by both undergraduate and graduate, and the response was "yes". UCC members indicated a statement should be included in the program certificate regarding being able to complete at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

E. Courses

- GEOG 1210 *Physical Geography* (change from 3-4 hours to 3 hours)
Petrov stated this 3-4 hour course (3 hour lecture + 1 hour lab) was confusing to students, created problems with scheduling, and better aligned with programs to change to 3 hours lecture.
- GEOG 12xx *Physical Geography Lab* (new course)
This will separate the lecture GEOG 1210 from this lab which created problems with students scheduling and confusing to students.
- GEOG 4390 *GIS Programming* (new course)
Petrov stated this course has been offered on an experimental basis twice and is taught by existing faculty. He stated no one else teaches this course, and is replacing the Computer Science course that is being dropped. This course will be part of the B.S. Geography major, and will strengthen that major.

F. M.A. Geography

A. Petrov indicated there were no changes in courses or substantive changes, but rather changes in the narrative to provide more clarity and promote more marketing of the program.

Since there were no curricular changes involved, no action was needed by UCC on this proposal.

Discussion concluded, and UCC members indicated there were several items that needed to be either revised or reported back to UCC. Chatham-Carpenter moved, Strauss seconded to return the Department of Geography proposals to the department for further revisions as discussed and noted. Question was called on the motion. Motion approved and the Department of Geography proposals were returned to department for revisions.

UCC agreed that revisions should be returned to UCC as soon as possible and, given the impending semester break and the type of revisions needed, a vote by email could be done before Spring 2013.

[Note from UCC Secretary: Email was sent on 1/23/2013 by Coleen Wagner for Mike Licari with revised packet from Department of Geography attached to email. Deadline for vote was Friday, 1/25/2013. Department of Geography proposals were approved by voting member majority by email 1/25/2013.]

It was indicated there may be additional expedited items coming forth in Spring 2013, and members would be notified at that time.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Wallace
UCC Secretary

dmw

cc: UCC Alternates
GCCC Members
Coleen Wagner