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CAS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF 13 NOVEMBER 2006 MEETING

Attending: Sheramy Bundrick, David R. Carr (chair), Jim Krest, Eric Odgaard, Bea Smith (ex-officio)

The final Fall semester meeting of the APC began at 10:00am in the Dean=s Conference Room. Minutes of the previous meeting received approval, sparing Carr from yet more editing. We began our assault on the mountain of paper before us.

Journalism and Media Studies:

The proposed changes were approved on condition that a number of changes be incorporated and some questions answered.

- A copy of the existing program should be attached to the proposal.
- A statement specifying the effect of the course changes should be incorporated.
- Will a minor in JMS be offered? If so, add statement to that effect and requirements for the minor.
- Justify increase in required hours from 40 to 44.
- Suggest that among outside electives ECO 2013 and ECO 2023 and POS 2112 and POS 3142 be designated as either or choices.

General questions prompted by course proposals and syllabi:

- Are the instructors aware of the IRB strictures on human subjects?
- Is Prof. Walters aware of the rules about using his book as a text in his course?
- Neighborhood New Bureau proposal has too many XXs
- Science Writing 5.D. List needs some more periods. That list does not match the syllabus

Members were highly entertained by the lack of proof-reading which resulted in several errors and typos.

Curriculums for curricula
- VIC 3001 should be Introduction to Visual Communications and if proposed as a general education course, where=s that proposal?
- Electives for electives.
- Please carefully proof-read all copy.

The committee thought the changes were carefully crafted, although a bit overwritten, and offered students in Journalism and Media Studies an improved major.

Florida Studies:

The committee did not approve the proposed addition of a Certificate in Florida Studies for a number of reasons.

Certificate vs. minor: Certificates are far less attractive to undergraduate students than minors, and the members agreed that the proposal should be for a minor.

The committee suggests that 12 of the required 18 hours should be drawn from Group A which focus specifically on Florida. Group B lists courses with broader concerns.

Far too many selected topics courses. These courses should become distinct Florida
Study courses and therefore New Course Proposal forms should be submitted for each. 

Course list includes problematic courses: Pro-Seminar in California history inappropriate to the program; JOU 3308 not necessarily on Florida and restricted to majors in Journalism; focus of lit 4930/evr 4930 Nature Writing not necessarily on Florida. These also require separate new course proposals.

Corrections and suggestions: 2. Starting Date should have been Fall 2008. 4. Required courses should be changed to single course (AMH 3423). Inappropriate to have senior-level pro-seminar.

AMH 3403 syllabus: Supply something more recent that 1996.
Instructors should be aware that separate syllabi are needed for courses with cross-listed undergraduate and graduate sections.

The committee members thought that a minor in Florida Studies would be a valuable addition to the curriculum and urge the POD to revise and resubmit the proposal along with the new course proposals.

Spanish Major:

The committee reluctantly did not approve the proposal to add the Spanish major to the USFSP offerings. We appreciate the need for and interest in the major, but think that the proposal as it currently stands has some fundamental deficiencies.

Instructors: At the moment, only one full-time visiting professor is on the faculty. A search for a full-time tenure-earning assistant professor is underway, but there is no assurance that the visiting position will continue when that search concludes. The proposal specifies the addition of another assistant professor for Fall 2009, but again, no assurance that this added position will be approved. The bulk of the work then would be carried out by adjunct instructors. The committee strongly opposes offering a major which potentially might have only one full-time faculty member in the field.

Course and credit hour requirements: The major appears to tally to some 71 hours nearly double the hour requirements of many CAS majors. (However, this arithmetic may err due to inconsistent descriptions within the proposal.) The minor consists in 31 required hours nearly the requirement of many majors. While these amounts may mirror the Tampa program, the committee considered them excessive and unreasonable. The required courses appear to include the entire Spanish curriculum.

Feasibility of completion of the degree: The committee was particularly concerned with the planned completion of both intermediate classes during a single summer session. This appears pedagogically unsound, designed to permit the excessive hour requirements, and aimed at increasing the SCHs of the department.

Miscellaneous points: Table 3 should be completed. Two business courses listed have been discontinued. Greater clarity and adequate defense needed on the process to eliminate native or near-native speakers of Spanish from the degree.

The committee members support the addition of the Spanish major to USFSP=s curriculum, but only if adequate, continuing funding of sufficient professorial lines are provided. Members also thought the joint program with the College of Business was desireable, but had the same provisos. We hope that the administration will commit sufficient resources to support this and other foreign languages at USFSP. Revise and resubmit.
**Geography:**

The members considered the memorandum from Prof. Johns requesting the de-activation of the Geography major at USFSP. All sympathized with the loss of geography faculty and the lack of replacements. All also recognized the impossibility of offering the major with only two faculty members, one of whom is totally devoted to GIS courses.

However, the committee also thought de-activation would cause much needless work should adequate faculty be added in the future. Therefore, the members supported the suggestion of Dean Gore to request instead a moratorium for the degree. That would allow for quick revitalization of the major and avoid bureaucratic delays. Carr will request Johns to produce a revised memo to that effect.

**History:**

Revised catalog copy for the History program was received after the adjournment of the committee. Carr had that copy circulated to the members, requesting their positive or negative decision. As this is largely housekeeping, the revised copy has been approved pending necessary corrections and revisions. Cn avass: four for, none against, and one not voting. The text will reflect changes as required and suggested and must be submitted to the chair before forwarding to the dean.

**Other Business:**

Proposals expected from Anthropology and from Graphic Design were not received and therefore not considered. Prof. Sokolovsky left for a conference before being able to complete revisions. Prof. Spadaro experienced a computer mishap and lost all data.

As the campus carillon sounded 12:00 noon... (Well, we were a little punch-drunk after two hours of this.) With much relief, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. We didn’t even wait to vote the motion.