**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

October 19, 2012

Present: Acklin, McCandless, Montgomery, Simpson, Smith, Stillman, Walsh

Guests: Bobby Arellano, David Bithell

The meeting began at 10:03 a.m. Committee members and guests exchanged introductions

Emerging Media & Digital Arts Curriculum Changes

EMDA is proposing a new degree in Emerging Media & Digital Arts. Arellano and Bithell explained background and elements of the proposal, which includes a number of new courses. More than half of the new courses were piloted last year under open numbers. The degree is designed to have multiple pathways for students.

Walsh asked for clarification about support staff. The proposal calls for a part-time office coordinator, but Walsh suggested a full-time office coordinator may be needed. There were questions about who would do student advising, especially since there is not just one department involved. Arellano said they are still working out this plan; there are 15 affiliated faculty members involved in the program, but it’s likely that 6 of those faculty members will handle the advising load; they are hoping for some release time for advising.

There are similar programs in Oregon, but none are designed as the SOU EMDA proposal. Most other programs have either a computer science, art, or journalism emphasis. SOU’s proposal is truly interdisciplinary. Walsh recommended getting a clear statement from the CAS Dean about office support for the program.

Montgomery spoke about the library assessment for the program. She said she was pleased to find there were more resources than expected. She suggested that it would be helpful for future support to go to the participating departments instead of just the EMDA program. There was discussion about creative ways to purchase materials.

Other questions included clarifying course titles for the EMDA 201-205 series, and location of syllabi for several of the new courses; Thorpe will forward syllabi to committee members. EMDA 205 is being proposed as a designated programming course for the B.S. degree.

After further discussion, it was agreed that the committee would continue the review of EMDA proposals next week, and Arellano will return to the meeting on October 26. Arellano and Bithell departed the meeting.

Curriculum process updates

The Provost has recommended that curricular proposals for 2013-14 go forward as submitted (both ones that were submitted in summer, and those being submitted by October deadline), but that during winter term 2013, departments and faculty concentrate on developing curriculum and plans for the new SOU curricular model. We will need clarification on whether we will create a 2014-15 catalog with new changes as in the past, or whether there will be a moratorium on curricular changes while the new curriculum is developed.

Walsh said many groups are meeting to discuss the direction for SOU. These discussions include ideas for programs, Houses, vision, and transitions in Student Affairs and Academic Affairs. We should do the work that is before us at the same time these other discussions are occurring.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.