CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

April 26, 2013

Present: Acklin, Ayers, Clarke, McCandless, Oline, Silva, Goodson, Simpson, Smith, Walsh

Guests: John King, Karen Stone

The meeting began at 1:01pm. The minutes from the April 19 meeting were accepted.

ED 463A

John King attended the meeting to answer any questions about ED 463A, which is proposed to reduce credits from 4 credits to 3 credits. A writing component that was previously part of the course has been separated out into another course, so it is appropriate to reduce the credits for ED 463A. The course description will be edited to reflect the removal of the writing piece. Clarke/Ayers moved to approve the credit and course description changes for ED 463A; the motion passed 6Y/0N/0A. King departed the meeting.

House Seminar courses

Karen Stone attended the meeting to discuss the proposals for HSEM 101, 102, 103. These will be similar to University Seminar courses but be specifically for students in the House cohorts. The three courses are shells for the specific courses that will be developed; for next year, courses for the GreenHouse and Social Justice House will be offered. The pedagogical approach will be for innovative teaching, and perhaps a different delivery model (such as what is traditionally a lecture being delivered online, and then have discussion face-to-face). The freshman House Seminars will be more comprehensive than University Seminar because all the students will be in the same House cohort.

Clarke asked if the University Seminar advising piece is also part of the freshman House Seminars; Stone said the House has the responsibility for advising students, so the HSEM instructor doesn’t do the only advising. Clarke asked about logistics when a House Seminar student transfers to another school; there was a discussion about these details, as well as the ramifications if a House student stays at SOU but discontinues in the House cohort. Currently the plan is that if a student does not pass one of the sequences in the freshman House Seminar, the student will need to leave the House cohort and complete the comparable University Seminar course(s). Ayers suggested that we may need to develop a course similar to USEM 185 to give House students extra help, if needed. Other discussion topics included logistics for listing the courses in the class schedule; how to match the House Seminar courses to our current University Studies models, with which we are already familiar; whether the course titles (and perhaps HSEM prefix) should be revised. (Silva departed the meeting.)

Simpson recommended that she and Matt Stillman discuss some of the logistical details with Stone next week, before the Curriculum Committee meets again next Friday. If committee members have more questions, send these to Pat Acklin before next week’s meeting, so answers can be ready. Stone will attend next week’s meeting, beginning at 1:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 2:03pm.