**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

October 28, 2015

Present: Becker, Faller-Mitchell, McCandless, Mercier, V. Smith; Adams, Ayers, DeRoss, Neely Waters

Guest: Dustin Walcher

The meeting began at 8:59 a.m. The minutes were revised and accepted as revised.

Financial Mathematics

The committee discussed some of the revisions to the way Topics courses (MTH 421 and 461) were listed in the mathematics requirements. Some committee members said it would be clearer to list the specific course numbers (such as MTH 421A, 421B, MTH 461C, etc.) instead of the general 421 and 461 course numbers. There was also a question about repeatability of the courses. Ayers noted that the online catalog does list all the specific alpha course numbers available within the 421 and 461 Topics courses, so it may not be necessary to list them separately. There were other questions about the Capstone requirements, especially for the credits required for MTH 490 if students choose that capstone course instead of BA 499. Thorpe will ask Jim Hatton to clarify these credits.

Mathematics-Computer Science

The MTH 490 capstone requirement was also questioned as it was for Financial Mathematics. Smith asked if anyone wanted to entertain a motion to approve the Financial Mathematics and Mathematics-Computer Science catalog changes, pending clarification of the capstone credits. McCandless said it may be better to wait until the questions are clarified. The vote on these two programs will be tabled until a future meeting.

Curriculum issues

Smith said that if Education doesn’t present catalog changes at next week’s meeting, he recommends using some of the meeting time to discuss perennial curriculum issues that need resolution. Some of these issues are cross-listed courses, credit increases, changing modalities of courses, syllabus requirements, and course suspension vs. deletion. The Curriculum Committee can discuss issues and then bring them to Faculty Senate or Academic Policies Committee for a broader conversation. The committee will start with the issue of cross-listed courses.

History and Political Science

Before Dustin Walcher’s arrival, the committee began reviewing changes for History and Political Science. Several history courses are being suspended because of loss of faculty to teach them, but the program may hope to offer them again. Political Science has two courses listed as suspended, and the committee discussed these two courses in particular but also the general issue of suspension over deletion. After Walcher arrived, he agreed that PS 448 can be deleted, but will check with Paul Pavlich about PS 328. [Following the meeting, Walcher confirmed that PS 328 can be listed as Deleted.]

Walcher said that many of the changes for both programs are housekeeping changes. They are not staffed to offer all courses but hope to replace faculty in the next few years. Dates have been adjusted on some courses to allow for more content. For some of the revisions to the Political Science major and various options, there was a question about whether both the credits and number of courses required is necessary, or whether to list one or the other. The committee recommended just listing the credits required, since all the courses are 4-credit. Thorpe said in some cases it may be better to also list the number of courses students choose, but we will strive for some consistency in the way these are listed in the catalog. McCandless/Becker moved to approve the History and Political Science catalog changes; the motion passed 6Y/0N/0A. [note: these Political Science changes did not include the changes to the PS minor; changes to the PS minor will be reviewed at a later date.]

Next week

The November 4 meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. The agenda includes a discussion of cross-listed courses, followed by review of catalog changes for Criminology and Criminal Justice. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.