**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

February 25, 2015

Present: Faller-Mitchell, McCandless, Miller-Francisco, Oline, V Smith; Adams, Ayers, Highland, J Smith

Guests: Jessica Piekielek, Mark Shibley

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. Guests were introduced. Oline recommended postponing review of the February 18 minutes.

Sociology and Anthropology proposal

Guests Mark Shibley and Jessica Piekielek were introduced. The separate programs in Sociology and Anthropology will merge, and they have developed a new degree proposal for a BA/BS in Sociology and Anthropology. The new degree proposal will allow more flexibility for students, and will facilitate the interdisciplinary work of the faculty. The current separate degrees would be discontinued, with a teach-out plan for students currently pursuing degrees in anthropology or sociology. Current courses in ANTH and SOC prefixes will be changed to a single SOAN prefix. Because new upper division SOAN courses were previously ANTH or SOC and some had specific ANTH or SOC prerequisites, changing all the courses to SOAN will make it important for faculty teaching upper division SOAN courses to specify which specific lower division SOAN courses are necessary prerequisites for the upper division SOAN courses. Oline asked several questions about specific requirements for the new combined degree. Math requirements will be in SOAN 327 (which has a prerequisite of MTH 243). There will be a three-course capstone sequence; prerequisites of SOAN 301 and 326 will be added to the first course in the sequence. The Applied Cultural Anthropology Certificate will be discontinued.

There were several other questions related to transfer student details and the need for flexibility as the two separate degrees transition into one single degree. There was a question about whether students typically prefer a degree in the single discipline, or the combined degree. Shibley said that as far as students pursuing graduate school, it doesn’t matter whether they have a bachelor’s degree in anthropology or sociology, or in a combined soc/anth degree.

McCandless/V Smith moved to approve the proposed programmatic changes for Sociology and
Anthropology, pending the edits that were discussed. The motion passed 5Y/0N/0A.

Ayers noted that the combined program and degree is a positive outcome from the prioritization and retrenchment recommendations. The two separate programs have a small number of faculty members, and combining them and revising the degrees into one combined degree leads to a stronger overall academic program. (Piekielek and Shibley left the meeting.)

Other pending curriculum changes

Next week’s agenda includes a second review of curriculum changes for Music and Psychology. The committee may be able to complete the review of some of the other curriculum proposals that are unfinished.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.