**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

November 3, 2014

Present: Grace, Grimland, McCandless, Miller-Francisco, Oline, V Smith, Highland [Simpson], Waters

Guests: John Richards, Laura Hughes

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. The minutes from the October 27 meeting were accepted.

International Studies

John Richards explained some of the changes to IS courses; GSWS 301, GEOG 330, and GEOG 360 are proposed to be cross-listed in the IS prefix. Oline asked if it’s a problem to cross-list courses from a prefix that will eventually be eliminated [such as GEOG]. Highland suggested changing the original prefix [GEOG] to the IS prefix, and she can just change the subject code in Banner. Ayers said some students may want to take the courses under the old prefix. As for the proposed IS 301, it could stay as GSWS 301 and the course would just be listed as that, instead of adding the IS cross-listing.

There was a general discussion about problems associated with cross-listed courses—they can cause confusion for students, make courses look like they are filled when they are not, cause problems resulting in academic appeals. The committee will review issues surrounding cross-listed courses at a later date.

Oline suggested not cross-listing the GEOG courses with the IS prefix; it would be better to wait until the GEOG prefix is eliminated, then to change the selected courses to IS. And the GSWS 301 course can be offered without cross-listing with IS. Richards formally withdrew the proposal to cross-list courses as IS 301, IS 330, and IS 360.

Smith/McCandless moved to approve the International Studies changes to the major and minor, including revisions that resulted during the meeting. The motion passed 6Y/0N/0A. Richards departed the meeting.

Chemistry

Laura Hughes explained some prerequisite changes for a few courses. Waters asked about the COMM 310 (Advanced Public Speaking) requirement in the Forensic Chemistry concentration, and why this was required instead of COMM 210 (Public Speaking). After discussion, it was decided that COMM 210 is a more appropriate course for forensic chemistry students than COMM 310. Hughes asked that COMM 310 be replaced by COMM 210 in the requirements for the Forensic Chemistry option, pending approval by the other chemistry faculty.

Hughes explained the increase in credits for CH 454 and 455; the increase reflects the amount of work required in these biochemistry labs. Students should get credit for the work they do. Comparative credits at other schools are 2 credits, and the STEM Director supports the increase. Oline expressed concern about tuition increase for students; Hughes said assigning fewer credits for these labs makes it look like our students are not having the same experience as students at UO, and this isn’t accurate. Is differential tuition an option? Hughes said when we had a tuition plateau, it wasn’t an issue about the lab credits, but now it is. Ayers said this may be a question for the HECC, since we are pushing for STEM majors. (Grimland departed the meeting.)

McCandless/Miller-Francisco moved to accept the proposed changes for Chemistry, including the COMM 310 change made at the meeting. The motion passed 5Y/0N/0A.

Other issues

Smith suggested the Curriculum Committee revisit some issues that have been brought up in previous meetings, but never get resolved. We need to keep track of these larger questions that come up and set aside time to deal with them.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.