**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

January 15, 2016

Present: Becker, Gay, McCandless, Mercier, Miller-Francisco, V Smith; Adams, Ayers

Guests: Deborah Rosenberg, Eric Levin

The meeting began at 11:02 a.m. The minutes from the January 7 meeting were accepted.

Art and EMDA catalog changes

Introductions were exchanged with Deborah Rosenberg. She provided background on some of the changes proposed. Last year Art made significant changes to the curriculum and now they are reevaluating the curriculum and making a few revisions to refine the curriculum further. Art has far fewer faculty members than they did a few years ago, and the program needs to adjust the curriculum to this reality.

New course ART/EMDA 322 (Writing the Artist Narrative) crosses the disciplines in Creative Arts. Rosenberg said that ART/EMDA 322 is meant to be repeatable; in fact students must repeat it as it’s intended to be a progression. Thorpe noted that EMDA 322 was added to the EMDA curriculum, but ART 322 wasn’t added as a requirement or elective in Art.

ARTH 200 (Art History and Visual Studies) will remove the restriction of art majors only (it shouldn’t have been included).

Several of the repeatable art studio courses will have the maximum credits increased from 16 credits to 24 credits. It was noted that, theoretically, students could fulfill their studio course requirement by taking the same course multiple times to achieve the required credits; Rosenberg will submit clarifying language to prevent this from happening.

ART/EMDA 361 (Programming for Artists) is proposed to be renumbered to ART/EMDA 461. This course was formerly ART/EMDA 205, but was renumbered for 2015-16. What is the justification for renumbering at the 400-level, when it was a 200-level course just a year ago? The renumbering to 300-level was justified, but without a significant change to course content or expectations, the committee questioned renumbering the course to a higher level. Rosenberg will discuss this with colleagues and report back to the committee. Also, ART/EMDA 361 lists a ART/EMDA 205 prerequisite option, but this isn’t possible because technically 205 is the same course as 361. Rosenberg will look into this and report back.

The committee had a brief discussion about what constitutes a 100-, 200-, 300-, and 400-level course. Smith said TracDat might be a good tool to use to help evaluate the different learning objectives appropriate for each level.

There were questions about the overall art curriculum. Rosenberg said their students have a wide variance of experiences and interests; some have a particular passion and ability in one direction and they are encouraged to go as far as possible with that, but these students are also encouraged to explore media and areas with which they are less adept.

The committee decided to postpone any action on these changes, pending further information. Rosenberg left the meeting.

Theatre Arts

Eric Levin joined the meeting. Questions about Theatre Arts catalog changes included:

* TA 352 (Advanced Script Analysis): is it really advanced? No prerequisites are listed, so the course title may be revised. The committee discussed the grading option; it will be graded only for majors, but non-majors can take the course p/np.
* TA 368: it was recommended that this new course will have a title change to Costume Construction VI. Levin will confer with Laurie Kurutz about the course title.
* There were questions about some of the course description language in the acting sequence courses, as some of the wording may have been copied and pasted incorrectly. Levin will ask Jacki Apodaca to look at these for confirmation.
* TA 381 (Acting IV): Levin said this course should have a co-requisite; he will send course details.
* Should the acting courses contain more specific language of course content? They are being changed to have general descriptions which don’t specify what is covered in the class. Levin will discuss with Apodaca.

The committee will wait for answers to these questions before completing its review of Theatre Arts catalog changes.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.