**Curriculum Committee**

January 13, 2017

**Present:** Andrew Gay, Vincent Smith, Tim Becker, Susan Faller-Mitchell, Emily Miller-Francisco, John Sollinger; MaryAnn Neely, Karen Adams, Karen DeRoss

**Guests:** Prakash Chenjeri, Adam Elson, Chad Thatcher, Greg Jones

The Meeting began at 10:02am. Note: Because a chair had not yet been selected, Emily Miller-Francisco served as temporary chair for this meeting.

**Philosophy**

Prakash Chenjeri discussed two proposed new Philosophy courses. Regarding PH 353 - Political Philosophy, he said that the Philosophy department worked with the Political Science department so students with Political Science majors could get a concentration in Political Philosophy. He has been teaching Political Philosophy as a topics course (PH 420) but now they would like to give it a hard number. The course gives an overview of Political Philosophy, which is different from what is taught in Political Science. Sollinger asked if the class has a community based learning approach. Chenjeri said yes, students will be asked to interview people and engage with the community to learn about what it means to participate in the political community. Faller-Mitchell asked about how often the class will be offered. Chenjeri said that it will be offered twice a year, in fall and spring quarters. The goal is to avoid overlap. Gay asked whether there are any prerequisites for the course, and whether any should be included. Chenjeri said no prerequisites are needed. Smith noted that the course is proposed for I Strand, so it appears to be intended for a more general audience that wouldn’t need prerequisites.

Chenjeri also spoke about PH 373 – Philosophy and Sexuality. It has been previously offered as a 399 and has been popular. It is proposed for J Strand. Gay/Smith moved to approve both courses; the motion passed 6Y/0N/0A. (Chenjeri departed the meeting)

**OAL**

Adam Elson talked about the proposed new activity courses. Many of them are already being taught as 199 courses. OAL 185 Disc Golf should actually be listed for 2 credits. The idea behind listing the activity courses for 2 credits is that in addition to the experiential element, students will also get more of a theoretical grounding. He discussed two proposed changes to the major: replacing HE 331 with OAL 426 and replacing PE 372 with OAL 372. Students were struggling to get into HE 331 – Environmental Health, and because it was online only, not many students were taking it. Many OAL students don’t like online courses. Elson said that from the inception of the OAL degree, they have wanted to offer a risk management course. Now that they have more human resources they can do so. The principles of risk management have always been integrated across OAL courses, but now they have the opportunity to make it a standalone, which was the hope all along. Regarding PE 372 - Kinesiology, he said they have been getting feedback from students that the class is geared toward actions and movements for more traditional sports. OAL 372 will apply more to adventure sports actions and movements. OAL has had discussions with the Kinesiology instructors, and they are in favor of PE students continuing to take PE 372, and creating this class (OAL 372) for OAL students. Possible instructors include local doctors who teach Anatomy & Physiology and have extensive experience with adventure sports. The inclusion of “Repeatable for up to 12 credits” for OAL 372 was a mistake.

Adams asked about the repeatability of the activity classes, OAL 184-188. Why are they each repeatable for up to 12 credits? Elson said that that keeps in running with the tradition for our activity classes; they’ve always been repeatable. The classes are dynamic; they meet the students where they’re at and make the class challenging for the students whatever their level. They have had (in Rock Climbing I for example) people take a class 5 or 6 times, and they’re still able to meet them where they are and challenge them to their level of ability. Adams brought up the potential for students to have an excessive amount of activities on their transcript. One possible solution might be enforcing a max of 12 credits across these activities courses. These credits count toward students’ 180 credits, but it can be a challenge for students with financial aid.

Smith asked if there’s an issue with students getting credit too quickly; does this cause problem for the majors? Elson said that what we’ve seen from our students is that the majors aren’t really the ones repeating the classes. Smith added that another consideration is that many who are taking these courses are not full time enrolled students, so it’s a money maker for university.

DeRoss asked if a student could take 12 credits of each. Will there be a limit to the number of OAL credits a student could take? Thatcher asked if this would be addressed through advising. DeRoss said advising will talk to the students, but they can’t police it; if it’s not prohibited we can’t stop them.

Faller-Mitchell said OAL majors are people who are hoping to become leaders in these disciplines; we wouldn’t expect them to just take one course and be a leader. Smith asked how this is addressed in the progress toward graduation. Adams said eventually financial aid will catch up with them. Smith said it has been my job as a major advisor to say this person really is progressing toward graduation. Adams said these policies aren’t really for the students who are on track and ahead of the game. Elson said these courses actually weed students out.

Adams mentioned that another concern would be transfer/articulation; other institutions might have a cap on transferability.

Neely asked about degree audits: would PE 372 meet the OAL 372 requirement? Elson said yes, we’d definitely allow that. He said it would be the same with HE 331/OAL 426. If it would be a major hindrance for the student’s graduation we’d work with them. Neely said that the credit hours for the OAL major don’t add up correctly in the catalog and should be fixed.

Smith/Faller-Mitchell moved to approve the OAL changes with a correction to the credits of OAL 185 and removal of “Repeatable for up to 12 credits” in OAL 372. The motion passed 6Y/0N/0A. (Elson and Thatcher departed the meeting)

Smith mentioned that the 2 credit classes do a good job of recruiting students to our campus. Adams brought up the idea of badges and Smith discussed badges as a popular and increasingly standardized system. Neely said that a financial aid audit could maybe help address the issue of students potentially having too many OAL credits.

**October 26 minutes**

The minutes from the October 26 meeting were accepted as written.

**Committee Chair**

Andrew Gay volunteered to serve as Committee Chair for the remainder of the year. Approved 6Y/0N/0A.

Faller-Mitchell said she will be on sabbatical in the spring and asked about finding a replacement.

**Wine Business Certificate**

(Greg Jones joined the meeting) Jones said the development of this certificate has been in his mind for a long time. SOU hadn’t been in the right place previously. Another thing that spurred it was a relationship Jones has with Linfield college. He gave them a number of ideas and they created a program. We would want to work with them. About 2.5 years ago, a survey of the industry was done, asking what they’d like to see with regard to workforce development. More than anything else, they said that selling wine was the most difficult component. They end up training people themselves to work in the tasting rooms, marketing, etc. Much of what we already teach has components of marketing, social media, e-commerce, and so on. We thought we’d put together a certificate that would address the needs of the industry. Looked at community colleges that have 2 year programs with introductory pieces for this; students coming out of those programs could look at the certificate as a 4 year bridge for them. The curriculum proposed was created in response to the skills requested by the industry survey.

The 4 proposed new courses are to be offered for 2 credits; they are meant to be seminar-based and more creative about time period offered. They offerings include viticulture, wine making, framework of wine business, sensory evaluation. One item not quite settled yet (because it requires legal advice): statement about Exemption/Sip & Spit law in OR, CA and other states which allows 18 year olds to taste wine. Other colleges are currently doing it, but still needs approval from legal counsel. One of the more complicated components is internships tying into the certificate. Business students could easily do their internships in a wine business related topic. For non-business students there might be a slightly different path to give them the right experience. The survey showed that the industry is very supportive of having interns, capstone students etc.

Wine Appreciation is currently taught as BA 230, and has been taught for something like 20 years. It’s a very popular 4 credit class for general population, but not meant to be something for students interested in working in the wine industry. We’d like to keep it. It’s always full and we schedule it 2, sometimes 3 times a year.

Jones said he also thinks BA 291-4 will be of interest to students not pursuing the certificate. He said he has had some conversations around the idea of doing a badge. If student in another program are interested, it could be helpful.

Neely raised some degree audit questions. The certificate is called an interdisciplinary program; but all of the required courses but 1 are in Business, (the other is Comm). She also asked if the courses listed as prerequisites for the certificate should be scribed? So those prerequisites are basically required courses, raising the credits of the certificate.

Jones said that regarding the prerequisites we see same issue for several other certificates offered at SOU, with actual credits adding up to more than listed. Neely asked about the requirement that the majority of credits be taken at SOU – does that mean 19 (i.e. the majority of the 36 credits included in “Required Courses” and “Electives,”)? Jones said yes.

Neely noted that some students would have to take 2 business classes for their “electives” so they would need to be listed as additional requirements. For non-business students, basically the business courses are required. Jones said yes, he hadn’t thought of that, but that would be the effect.

Jones said probably the biggest issue would be BA 211, which is prerequisite for BA 213.

Smith said that it would be important to point out to students that there are prerequisites for the required courses. Jones said we could take some out, but they are logical lead-ins for the certificate, and are also Gen Ed courses. He said he really thinks every student on campus should have to take BA 131. Faller-Mitchell said that it would be difficult if the student had already completed their Gen Ed requirements.

Gay noted that Jones’ name is included as potential teacher for several of the courses and asked if that would be a problem given his schedule. Jones said the Directors’ contracts allow them to teach 1 course per term, and currently several Directors are teaching. He said he currently has a 4 credit load and he’s hoping to work his way out of that. He said he would have to balance it, but there are plenty of people who could teach those courses. He couldn’t do all 4 of them in any individual year. He said he spoke to Steve Petrovic in Chemistry about teaching BA 292. Petrovic expressed some interest, and he’s taught a wine chemistry class. Jones said his own expertise is needed, it’ll just depend on working out the time.

Neely mentioned the possibility of students who may have already taken BA 409 or 499 but not in the wine industry. It looks like if they decided to do the wine certificate, they would have to do BA 409 and 499 again.

Adams brought up the issue of badges and asked if Jones has talked to Rob at OLLI; OLLI may be interested in a badge program. Jones said he’s taught OLLI courses that touched on all of the things focused on in the certificate. He said that in a conversation he had with President Schott she sounded very interested in the idea of badges. He thinks it is good to put the courses at 2 credits; this allows them to be more flexible and accessible for the student.

Neely said that with the understanding that there are still some kinks to be worked out she would be okay approving the proposal.

Faller-Mitchell/Gay moved to accept the Wine Business Certificate proposal and related courses with kinks still to be worked out. The motion passed 6Y/0N/0A.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15am.