**Curriculum Committee**

Friday, February 24, 2017

**Present:** Andrew Gay, Vincent Smith, Emily Miller-Francisco; Karen DeRoss, Karen Adams, Jody Waters, Lee Ayers, MaryAnn Neely, Racquel Berglund

**Guests:** Alma Rosa Alvarez, Hala Schepmann

The Meeting began at 10:02 am.

**Minutes from 2/17 Meeting**

The minutes from the February 17th meeting were accepted as written.

**English**

Alma Rosa Alvarez discussed the proposed changes in English. Regarding the proposed changes to ENG 494/594, she said that when she met with Graduate Council there was a question about whether it would make more sense to propose an entirely new course. The course has been completely reconceived, so it probably would be better to create a new course. The faculty member who will teach the course, Ed Battistella, does not mind teaching it under a different number, so a new number is being explored. The original idea behind keeping the 494 number was that it’s part of a series of linguistics courses, including ENG 490, 491, and 492. However, it is a completely new course. The Committee confirmed that this sounds like a new course, and a new course proposal will be needed for it to be approved.

Adams asked about courses where the proposed changes add “or ENG 300” in the prerequisites. She wondered if it would also make sense (not in catalog but behind the scenes) to add ENG 298 as an option. Alvarez said ENG 298 is a prerequisite for the 300 level courses, so there’s no need to spell it out. It would actually better to remove ENG 298 from prerequisites when it’s not necessary.

Smith/Miller-Francisco moved to accept the proposed changes in English, with the understanding that a new course proposal for the Language of Food class will be forthcoming, and it will have a new number; the motion passed 3Y/0N/0A.

**Chemistry**

Hala Schepmann discussed the proposed changes in Chemistry. She said she took over as chair and found inconsistencies in the Chemistry section of the catalog. She also said that there were some recitations which were approved last year but which need a new CRN so another room can be reserved for them. These recitations imply no need for additional credits, but they are being added just to facilitate room assignments and to provide clarity so students know they have to show up to two different places. With regard to general Chemistry sequences, she said most universities we interact with have the same numbering for their courses, so articulation can be simplified. With the proposed changes we will be matching those other universities. The proposed changes also include adding numbers to course sequences (for example, General Chemistry I, II, III, etc.).

Adams asked if there has been any concern for students having to sign up for 3 different CRNs (course, lab, and recitation). Schepmann said Chemistry students are very used to it and it’s really not a problem.

Adams asked why it is that not all labs are indicated with an L next to the prefix and number. Schepmann said in part that is historical; she also said that Chemistry is already proposing quite a number of changes, so this is something that can be cleaned up later. Other universities sometimes don’t have L, but instead have separate numbers for the lab sections of their courses. Adams mentioned that Rogue Community College is one example where the course and lab are combined.

Gay asked if there is any risk of a student who has taken CHEM 201 taking 221. Schepmann said she doesn’t think a student would do that. Adams said that can be caught and flagged, though sometimes students do want to retake a class without receiving additional credit. Smith said he can imagine a non-Chemistry student making this mistake, but as long as someone can flag it there shouldn’t be a problem. Neely said we can set it to flag those instances in Banner, but that is not possible in self-service, so a student registering online would not have that flagged. Adams pointed out that, as with all renumberings, it would be noted in the course description in the catalog. Schepmann said the faculty look closely and we can put it in the syllabi and make announcements to avoid issues. Gay said he would be more concerned about the fact that it is a G Strand course, and students just looking for any G Strand course might not look very closely. Schepmann said we’ll do our best to communicate effectively.

Adams said with renumberings, when they are built in the system we can make sure banner accepts the previous number as a prerequisite for courses that have the new number listed as a prerequisite.

Waters asked about the removal of the Chemistry Option. Schepmann said the program hasn’t really offered it in many years; it’s a Chemistry degree with a Chemistry Option. There is a BA degree which is not accredited, but the BS is, so this is just cleanup.

Waters asked about Forensic Chemistry. Schepmann said it is doing well and it fills up every time it’s offered.

Schepmann asked about including a new faculty member in the next catalog. Waters said that would be no problem at all.

Waters asked about the proposed change whereby taking a year of study is not required to be previous to a student’s capstone, but can be simultaneous. Schepmann said that sometimes students do two projects at the same time, so this would allow for that.

Smith/Miller-Francisco moved to accept the proposed changes in Chemistry; the motion passed 3Y/0N/0A.

Gay asked about the differences between recitations, labs, and courses. Smith said a recitation involves a smaller group of people and is more instructional, as opposed to a lab, or a lecture in a large classroom with many people. Waters said that in other programs there are other reasons for the distinction between recitations, labs, and lectures.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35am.