**Curriculum Committee**

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

**Present:** Andrew Gay, Anna Oliveri, Vincent Smith, Laura Jessup, Emily Miller-Francisco; MaryAnn Neely, Donny Nickelson, Lee Ayers.

**Guests**: Sean O’Skea, Kris Danford

The meeting began at 9:00am.

The minutes from the November 15th meeting were accepted.

**Theatre**

Kris Danford and Sean O’Skea discussed the additional changes for Theatre. Danford discussed the proposal to restore an updated Musical Theatre minor. At the Curriculum Committee meeting earlier in the term when this proposal was first considered there were questions about double dipping with some of the courses for the minor. To address this, those requirements have been changed to prerequisites for the minor in the updated proposal. There was also discussion about whether Musical Theatre would be better as a certificate rather than a minor. After consideration, the program determined that it would be better as a minor. Certificates require more upper division credits and the program doesn’t have the resources to support those classes.

Neely asked about the “students choose 2 from” sections, noticing that some courses listed there are repeatable. She asked if the idea is for someone to take two different courses rather than repeating the same course. Danford said yes, and the program will advise students that way.

Miller-Francisco asked if the program has spoken with the librarian about restoring this minor. Danford said no, we haven’t circled back around for that yet. Danford asked if the idea is to make sure that necessary resources are available. Miller-Francisco said it’s also important to have the conversation so the library knows to buy for that area going forward. In the case of new majors, this can mean the library needs more funds. Gay asked how long ago the minor was removed from the catalog. O’Skea said it was around 4 years ago. Miller-Francisco said the library has still been buying for it, it’s just good form to have that conversation before approval. Gay asked if the vote should be tabled. It was decided to vote on approving the minor pending notification that the program has spoken with the library.

Smith/Oliveri moved to approve the Musical Theatre minor pending notification from the library that a conversation has taken place with the Theatre program about the minor; the motion passed, 5Y/0N/0A.

O’Skea discussed the additional changes in Theatre. He said they’re basically housekeeping. The program changed the minimum credits of TA 255 and 455 from 1 to 2. This change has caused ripples throughout the curriculum. Students were in danger of hitting the cap. We looked for the cleanest way to say what we’re trying to have students do, so the proposed changes provide more clarity.

Danford spoke about the proposed new course TA 370, which has been offered pretty regularly under TA 399. The topics are flexible and it has been good for our students to get a variety of types of training depending on timing, availability of a particular instructor, etc. For example, the OSF fight instructor is available for a term so we want to be able to offer a class. O’Skea said this makes it tidier rather than having a bunch of courses on the catalog that just sit there until someone is able to teach them. Smith asked if there is an intention to suspend or cancel some of the things currently sitting in the catalog. O’Skea said yes, and we’ve done some already.

Neely asked if it is an elective. O’Skea said yes, they’re not requirements because we can’t guarantee we’ll be teaching them with regularity.

Neeely asked, on behalf of Adams, about the high repeatability (24 credits); she wondered if it would be okay if a student takes it 6 times. O’Skea said this is not a problem because it is not really the same class. Nickelson asked if a student could repeat the same topic. O’Skea said yes in theory, but it’s unlikely we will offer the same topic within a 4 year period. Nickelson said we could add verbiage to the description to specify a different topic for repeatability. Smith said that happens in ESP. Ayers said that another option is to add a letter, like 460A, 460B, which have different titles. This also allows certain topics to be university studies. O’Skea said he doesn’t see it as likely at all to need that language, but has no objection to adding it. Gay asked with repeatability 24 credits, how often does the program expect to offer the course. O’Skea said at least once or twice a year.

Gay asked, regarding the number of credits needed, if 24 credits would potentially count for major requirements. O’Skea said it would go toward electives; the students who are in the BFA track have their schedules highly determined. Nickelson said we do see students having a hard time getting enough upper level credits.

Neely asked, again on behalf of Adams, about the repeatability of TA 255 and 455. She wondered if there is a risk of students hitting the maximum in TA 255. O’Skea said the program raised repeatability for 455, but the program has thought about the cap for 255 carefully and this is what we’re looking for.

Miller-Francisco/Smith moved to approve the remaining Theatre changes with the addition of language in TA 370 to specify “may be repeatable for up to 24 credits with different topics”; the motion passed 5Y/0N/0A.

The meeting scheduled for next week has been canceled.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 am.