Undergraduate Curriculum Forum
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 30, 2015


Guest: K. Laing, W. Hardenberg

I. Call to order
The meeting was called to order and a quorum was reached at 9:35.

II. Announcements

III. Approval of UCF minutes of April 23, 2015
The minutes were approved unanimously without revisions

IV. Standing Committee Reports
A. NMC – Notifications Management Committee
   1. Motion to approve New Course Proposals
      a. **LIT 308 – Spanish National Cinema
      b. **ECO 450 – Seminar in Applied Economics
         Motion passed unanimously

2. Motion to approve Revised Course Proposals
   a. **MUS 210 – Music History I
      Motion passed unanimously

3. Motion to approve existing courses requiring no revisions
   a. **ART 236 – Ceramics I: Handbuilding
   b. **JRN 270 – Introduction to Photojournalism
   c. **JRN 350 – American Journalism History
      Motion passed unanimously

V. Special Orders

A. Polly Beals nominated Elizabeth Keenan as UCF Chair for 2015-16.
Motion to elect Liz Keenan as UCF Chair
The motion passed unanimously

B. Unfinished Business –
   1. Motion to approve a resolution brought by UCF Steering Committee
      Whereas the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum is charged with the oversight of the overall quality of the undergraduate curriculum;
      Whereas library instruction is part of the curriculum,
      Whereas library instruction directly impacts student success;
Whereas during the 2013-2014 academic year, there were 200 library instruction sessions taught, reaching over 3,300 students;
Whereas library instruction is scheduled during all class hours, including weekends and evenings;
Whereas the classroom on the main floor of the library was planned and designed for library instruction;
Whereas it is the only adequate space in the library for library instruction;
Whereas the planned classroom would allow the library faculty to finally meet educational, professional, student-centered objectives; and
Whereas the planned classroom could accommodate the frequently needed onetime tech classroom requests from faculty for mid-semester student presentations and final projects,

Be it resolved: That the Undergraduate Curriculum Forum calls for the restoration of the dedicated classroom for library instruction on the main floor of Buley Library.

Motion passed unanimously

2. Motion from LEPC: The LEP Multilingual Communication requirement in Tier 1 shall be changed from 3 credits at the 200 level to 3 credits at the 101 level.
   a. Discussion
      i. Are we sure that this motion doesn't contradict the LEP document? Seems to be asking if the change from competency language means this is unconstitutional.
      ii. Doubt that we can meet the goals established in LEP.
      iii. Request for further info about the competitive assessment chart.
      iv. This large a change seems to require a referendum. Did LEPC consider that?
         i. LEPC decided that this does not constitute a structural change, so it does not require a referendum.
         v. Polling Exercise Science showed that we prefer that majors who need this level of competency should include it in the major requirements.
         vi. Nursing supports the change as nursing program is very rigorous, currently 128 credits. Students need flexibility.
         vii. Medical Spanish minor and option are very valuable to the department. Departments should determine what their students need.
         viii. Sociology believes that not to provide these skills is a disservice to workforce and employers.
         ix. This change favors our English-speaking students: anglo white centrism. We need to embrace our diverse future.
         x. For WLL faculty this motion is disturbing and devastating to morale. The motion is brought in a non-collaborative environment

3. Motion to postpone the motion indefinitely.
   i. Geography in favor of tabling so we can reflect on the diversity of opinion on the issue. Little branding of the university: we don’t have much to fall back on aside from our strategic plan. Is this just about making it easier for our students to earn a degree. In favor of extended conversation on the issue, would like to put this
   ii. Anthropology in favor of motion to table the issue. The discussion has not been broad enough across the University. It is a disservice to our students to fail to discuss this at length. Back door deals—Deb says please do not speak about the main motion while we debate the current motion.
   iii. LEPC would like to proceed with the vote to see the motion go forward and find out what the will of the body is.
   iv. We have not had the chance to hear the WLL point of view as clearly
as LEPC argument.

i. Question - What is the relationship between tabling the motion and a faculty referendum? A. No connection to a referendum. Tabling would probably effectively kill the motion because it would need to be brought back to the body by majority at the next session.

v. Women's Studies believes that postponement would give representatives the opportunity to discuss, revise the idea and bring it back. The time is not right for this vote.

vi. WLL feels the department is coming across as inflexible, but in fact would like the opportunity to do what the English Dept has done, which is to make compromises that preserve learning objectives.

Vote
24 vote to postpone indefinitely
15 vote against

The motion is postponed indefinitely

4. Motion from LEPC: The LEP Multilingual Communication requirement in Tier 1 shall be waived for students entering with a Level 4 of a high school foreign language.

a. Discussion
i. Physics opposes the motion. High school equivalencies should be determined at the department level.
ii. WLL notes that high schools vary in terms of what they provide in any particular number of courses
iii. Math feels it is important that we determine what credits come in from high schools.
iv. Women's studies speaks against the motion as it sets a precedence to make changes at a level that cuts into department decision making and faculty governance.

v. Geography believes competency should be based on test, not seat time, especially given the variation in what seat time means among different high schools.

b. Vote
i. 13 yay
ii. 27 nay
iii. 0 abstentions

The motion did not pass

VI. New Business

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Elena Grossman
To: Dr. Deb Weiss  
UCF Chairperson

From: Dr. Sharon P. Misasi  
Interim Director of IDS

Re: Undergraduate Curriculum Forum (UCF) membership for Interdisciplinary Study Program (IDS)

Please accept this memo as a request the IDS Director to have formal membership representation on the UCF. As you are aware the Interdisciplinary Program has been growing over the years. It has gone from the Liberal Studies program to what it is currently and correctly named: Interdisciplinary Studies Program. It is the largest major on campus and to date there are 889 students. At this moment there is no UCF representation for this major. With this large number of students, it is imperative that the IDS Director be at the UCF meetings. Changes in minors (concentrations as they are called for IDS) impact the IDS students. At the present time, changes to minors are approved without the IDS Director’s awareness of such changes. It is imperative that the UCF members recognize and hear comments from the IDS Director so that those that may be affected by changes have representation and then the UCF members may make an informed decision.

As noted in the UCF Constitution – Article II. A. 6:

Additional Representation  
The UCF shall have the authority to extend representation to other constituent units of the University with the approval of the Faculty Senate. Any constituent unit that wishes to receive representation must fulfill either of the following two conditions: a) offer a major OR b) offer courses with its own subject code prefix AND have either a Chair or Director.

Any program that meets either a or b above may apply for UCF membership by providing a rationale explaining why that program is not otherwise represented sufficiently in the UCF. There shall be one Representative and one Alternate from each approved program in keeping with Department Representatives above.

It is with the above stated information that IDS have representation on the UCF. Thank you for your time and consideration.