Meeting Minutes Arts and Sciences Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting 02/22/11

In attendance:

Robert Wolff  A&S Dean’s Office
Jerry Butler  Art
Betsy Dobbs-McAuliffe (BD-M)  BMS
Tom Burkholder  Chemistry & Biochemistry (guest)
Steve Watton (SW)  Chemistry
Reginald Simmons (RS)  Criminology
Eleanor Thornton (ET)  Design
Nara Mijid (NM)  Economics
Paul Karpuk (PK)  English
Lisa Frank (LF)  Finance
Adele Miller (AM)  Mathematics
Jakub Kazecki (JK)  Modern Languages
Carlotta Parr (CP)  Music
Don Adams (DA)  Philosophy
Nimmi Sharma (NS)  Physics/Earth Sci.
Robbin Smith (RoS)  Political Sci.
Lauren Perdue (LP)  Psychological Sciences
Mary Erdman (ME)  Sociology
Sheila Siragusa  Theater

Meeting called to order 3:18pm.

Minutes for 02/22/12. Approved..
New Business

2.1 Graduate course addition: CNSI505. Deferred to SEPS and GS.

3.2 Graduate program revision Master of Science in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Deferred to GS.

3.1 ENG110. Represented by PK. Strengthen description to reflect that ENG110 is a college-level course. A suggestion was made to change the title to Introduction to College Writing. Motion to approve with the change in title was passed.

4.1-4 GEOG changes: No representative present.

7.1 Presented by AM/guest. MATH250 course revision. Course number change to MATH400 to reflect learning expectations, and change title to Introduction to Mathematica; becomes available to graduate students. Suggestions were made to (A) Clarify prerequisites by adding C- or higher to each prerequisite course number, and for graduate students add "admission to MS or MA program in mathematics. Passed pending clarification of prerequisites prior to main meeting.

7.2 STAT201. Rep’d by AM. Add Skill Area II. Deferred to Gen. Ed.

11. Report of CCSU Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee for General Education (Rep’d by Tom Burkholder)

Discussion Points:

(1) (NS) Is the creation of a new general education framework going to be rendered moot by introduction of a common core by the Board of Regents? According to RW, Carl Lovitt believes that it should be OK.

(2) (PK) Why is there a need to change the existing Gen. Ed. (TB) I. The current Gen. Ed. has become unnecessarily complex, and it is difficult for students (especially transfers) to navigate and complete requirements. II. Assessment was added after design of the current GE curriculum, and with 11 GE assessment objectives, it's hard to do. (PK) The online catalog and CASE make navigation easier, and he doubts that the proposed changes would help. Argued in favor of I and literature requirements, and noted that D designation is not included. Also thinks that loss of fitness and wellness component is unfortunate. The latter point was echoed by several others. (RW) Committee acted based on discussions with departments and at open forums, and didn't look into the motives of those making suggestions. With respect to D, he noted that there was a senate resolution to revisit in 3-6 years and that the designation did not have broad support in meetings. The committee took no position.

(3) (NS) Concerned that there is no lab science requirement; argued that the lab science is about preparation of scientifically-informed citizens, since it's all about collection and assessment of data. (TB) Noted that the proposal establishes a framework and doesn't delineate specific requirements.

(4) (RS and LP) Expressed concern that areas as defined were too broad and nebulous; suggested that Social and Behavioral Sciences be used in place of Self, Community and Society. It was also suggested that Mathematical Reasoning be renamed Quantitative Reasoning.

Voting was as follows: Accept recommendations as presented, 2; Accept with specific modifications (below), 9; reject outright, 1.

Specific changes: Rename areas as defined in (4); Require at least one tagged course; emphasize importance of Fitness and Wellness.

Meeting adjourned 4:42

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Watton, Secretary, A&S subcommittee

Meeting Adjourned 4:20