

Chair VerLinden called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, Nelson Hall East, Room 102 (Goodwin Forum). A quorum was present.

Members Present: Berman, Cheyne, Faulk, Flashman, Heise, Kelly, Madar, Mola, Mortazavi, Moyer, Powell, Reiss, Rodriquez, Shaeffer, Snyder, Thobaben, Van Duzer, VerLinden, Yarnall, Yzaguirre.

Members Absent: Altschul, August, Crowder-Fiore, Knox, Nordstrom, Richmond, Rizzardi, Tripp, Webb, Whitlatch.

Proxies: Reiss for Craig, Van Duzer for Ellerd, Shaeffer for Goodman, Rodriguez for Wilyer.

Guests: Zoellner, Golden, Burges, Fulgham, Oliver, Lee.

Chair VerLinden announced proxies for the meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of November 2, 2010

M/S/P (Heise/Thobaben) to approve the minutes from the meeting of November 2, 2010 as written.

M/S (Moyer/Thobaben) to re-order the agenda and place the urgent curriculum items from the ICC before the discussion of the senate constitution. There were no objections.

2. Consent Calendar

The following Consent Calendar items from the ICC were approved without objection:

10-075: ANTH 113: Anthropology Skills Development
10-160: FISH 510: Advanced Ichthyology
10-167: PE 312: Intercollegiate Club Archery
10-161: ART 108: Beginning Graphic Design
10-162: ART 340: Intermediate Graphic Design
10-163: ART 343: Advanced Graphic
10-187: Music Program Change
10-188: PSYC 474: Community Psychology Experience
09-451 – BA 496 Strategic Management.

3. Items Removed from the October 26, 2010 Consent Calendar:

- 09-396 PHYX 340 Symbolic Computation in the Sciences
- 09-391 Applied Physics Option
- 09-392 Astronomy option:

- 09-393 Physics Option:
- 09-394 Physics BA:
- 09-395 Physics Minor:

M/S (Moyer/Thobaben) to approve the Physics program changes.

Discussion:

- The original objection was based on an inconsistency between the proposal and the documentation. The inconsistent phrase has been removed. However, it was noted that some CSU Physics programs make a distinction between requirements for a BA and a BS degree and some require students to take a course in computing. Since that requirement has been removed from the HSU Physics program, there needs to be a discussion of what distinguishes the BA degree from the BS degree.
- It is correct that there will no longer be a requirement for a separate course. However, faculty will include *Mathematica* (computer program) in their coursework. In the past, there was a separate course on *Mathematica*. As part of the prioritization process, the department was asked to reduce the number of units in the major and it was felt that this course could be eliminated without causing a lot of damage to the program. In addition, the professor who taught it has retired. Students are still encouraged to take a programming course as an elective.
- It was noted that the *Mathematica* course was not a programming course; it was about how to use the higher level system as a problem-solving tool. Physics has never required a course in programming. Advising provides a mechanism for guiding students to find programming courses when they need them.
- According to the catalog description of Phyx 340/ Chem 340. Symbolic Computation in the Science, the course considers "Numerical, symbolic, graphical, programming, ... capabilities of the computer algebra system, *Mathematica*." *Mathematica* is an interpreted computer language which allows both calculator style and programmed user interaction in a workspace environment (similar to APL). The course clearly envisions some programming - though programming in *Mathematica* is not the same style of programming that is done in compiled computer languages such as FORTRAN, PASCAL, or C++.
- Q: What distinguishes a BA in Physics from a BS in Physics at HSU? A: The core classes are basically the same. The BA degree has fewer upper division courses and students have more options for what they can take in upper division courses. The BA degree has fewer total units for the major; it is basically a degree to prepare high school physics teachers. The BS degree prepares students for graduate school and other professional careers.
- It was clarified that the program changes in Physics have no bearing on the Chemistry major.

M/S/P (Van Duzer/Mola) to end debate and vote immediately.

Voting on the Physics program changes recommended by the ICC occurred and **PASSED** with 1 Abstention.

4. Resolution on Revision of the Rangeland Resources and Wildland Soils (RRWS) Curriculum (#11-10/11-ICC)

M/S (Moyer/Thobaben) to place the resolution on the floor.

Resolution on Revision of the Rangeland Resources and Wildland Soils (RRWS) Curriculum #11-10/11-ICC – November 9, 2010

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that the changes to the Rangeland Resources and Wildland Soils Major (as described in curriculum proposals listed below) be approved.

10-039 RRWS Program Changes

10-039B: Chart showing the new RRWS curriculum. A clear, succinct summary. An earlier version of this chart appears in 09-390, but this is the most up-to-date showing revisions negotiated between the Academic Master Planning Committee (AMP) and RRWS. In any case where 09-039 (the unchanged, original proposal) and 09-390B (the revised curriculum) are in conflict, 09-039B shall be interpreted as correct.)

10-040: RRS 110: Rangeland Resources in a Modern Society – suspend course because it's not required for the degree and hasn't been offered recently

10-041: RRS 285: Rangeland Resources Seminar, new course, crosslisted with SOILs 285 (the crosslisting better assists students in meeting Federal qualification standards for work in the field.)

10-042: RRS 306: Rangeland Resource Principles – title change to Wildland Resource Principles to reflect the breadth of the RRWS curriculum. (The AMP examined the course and concluded that it will continue to meet the GE student learning outcomes.)

10-043: RRS 311: Rangeland Field Experience – delete course – it is not a degree requirement and has not been offered since 02/03.

10-044: RRS 360: Rangeland Plant Communities – title change to "Wildland Plant Communities" to reflect the breadth of the RRWS curriculum, unit change from 4 to 3 in order to make the curriculum more efficient and permit student to graduate with no more than 120 units.

10-045: RRS 370: Rangeland Ecology Principles – title change to "Wildland Ecology Principles" to better reflect the breadth of the RRWS curriculum, course description change, course description change

10-047: RRS 390: Rangeland Analysis delete course – content is moved to revised version of RRS 380.

10-048: RRS 410: Introduction to Animal Nutrition - suspend course because it's not required for the degree and hasn't been offered recently

10-049: RRS 420: Introduction to Animal Science – course description change to reflect new content moved from RRS 410 (now suspended).

10-050: RRS 430: Rangeland Development & Improvements – title change to "Wildland Restoration and Development," C-class change from C-4 and C-16 to C-2 and C-16 to match the C-classifications of other RRWS courses, new course description to reflect content changes

10-051: RRS 460: Rangeland and Ranch Planning: new course description to reflect course redesign.

10-052: RRS 461: RRS Capstone new course proposal (cross-listed with SOIL 461) (the crosslisting better assists students in meeting Federal qualification standards for work in the field.) Note: SOIL 461 is an existing course.

10-054: SOIL 285: Wildland Soils Seminar – new course proposal, cross-listed with RRS 285 –

10-168: RRS 375: Techniques in Rangeland Resources – title change to "Vegetation Analysis & Health,"

change from 2 units (all C-4) to 3 units (2 of C-2 and 1 of C-16). Course content is a merging of former content from RRS 380 and RRS 390. Total old units: 4 lecture, 2 lab. Total new units: 2 lecture, 1 lab. 10-069: SOIL 492: Senior Project – New Course making Senior projects available for students in the Soils option, with the SOIL name that will better assist students in meeting Federal qualification standards for work in the field.

Rationale: Following the Post-Prioritization decision to maintain the Major in RRWS, the Provost and CNRS Dean directed the program to revise its curriculum so that the degree could be completed in 120 units and so that students would continue to qualify for the Federal Rangeland Specialist, Soil Conservationist, and/or Soil Scientist designations. In addition, the program was asked to minimize the number of unique courses within the two options, and work towards increasing the number of majors. The Integrated Curriculum Committee (ICC) believes that this curriculum revision satisfies the Provost's and Dean's curricular criteria and is coherently planned for effective student learning. In addition, the ICC supports the program's efforts to help students comprehend the breadth of the RRWS curriculum through the many course title changes from "Rangeland" to "Wildland."

Discussion:

A chart of the RRWS program options was handed out. It was noted that it has been revised since the prioritization discussion a year ago, and is the most current version.

- Q: Have the benchmarks been worked out between the department and the Dean? A: The department chair answered yes.

Voting on Resolution #11-10/11-ICC occurred and **PASSED** unanimously.

M/S/P (Powell/Cheyne) to make this an emergency item for immediate transmittal to the Provost.

Chair VerLinden asked if there were other urgent items for the Senate to address before discussion of the draft constitution. It was agreed that all three items from the Academic Policies Committee were time sensitive and related to catalog changes.

M/S/P (Mola/Van Duzer) to address those next.

5. Resolution on Guidelines for Approving Minors at HSU (#04-10/11-ICC)(Second Reading)

Resolution on Guidelines for Approving Minors at HSU
#04-10/11-ICC – November 9, 2010 (Second Reading)

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that the attached "Guidelines for Approving Minors at HSU," developed by the Integrated Curriculum Committee (ICC), be adopted for use by the ICC.

RATIONALE: *The initial charge to the ICC included developing clear criteria for making curricular decisions. The Guidelines for Approving Minors is the first of several such documents that the ICC is creating. Having clear guidelines should clarify expectations for everyone on campus, making both planning for new programs and evaluating proposals a more straightforward process.*

Discussion:

- A clarification was requested of the language in the 3rd bullet, under I.2., on page 2: “The minor enables students to pursue additional intellectual growth.” Is it possible that any minor would ‘not’ do this?
- The intent of the language is that when a minor is proposed, there should be an explanation of which of the three bullets it satisfies. The wording is intended to address instances where a student may be pursuing a minor completely unrelated to his/her major.

M/S (Flashman/Van Duzer) to remove the 3rd bullet under I.2., on page 2 and change the first sentence of I.2. to read: “The benefits of the minor program to students are articulated in one or ~~more~~ both of the following contexts:”

Discussion of the amendment:

- The reasoning of the amendment is logical; however, the possibility of approving minors that are solely for the purpose of furthering a student’s interests and pleasure should not be eliminated.
- It was suggested the I.2. be eliminated entirely.
- It was suggested that the 3rd bullet remain, and the language be changed to say: “The benefits of the minor program to students are articulated in at least two of the following contexts:”.

M/S/P (Van Duzer/Powell) to postpone discussion of the resolution to the next Senate meeting.

6. Resolution on Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Grade Mode Policy (#05-10/11-APC) (Second Reading)

Resolution on Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Grade Mode Policy
#05-10/11-APC – November 9, 2010 (Second Reading)

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that petitions to change grade mode from CR/NC to a letter grade, or from a letter grade to CR/NC be restricted to only those needed for graduation (e.g., major requirements, maximum of 24 units of CR/NC), retention, or financial aid . The Office of the Registrar will be responsible for reviewing and approving these petitions; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that Faculty will enter letter grades for all students regardless of the student’s preferred grade mode, and that the Registrar’s Office will convert the grades to CR/NC where students have selected that grading mode. This does not apply to courses that must be taken CR/NC; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that students, in consultation with their advisors, will be responsible for ensuring that no more than 24 SCU of CR/NC courses apply towards their degree.

Rationale:

1. Petitions to change grade mode after the deadline clog the system and do not serve the university well. These petitions are often opportunistic and represent an effort to avoid lowering GPA by selecting a CR/NC mode while leaving open the option to change to a letter grade if the course goes better than expected. There are a few situations which may require a grade mode change (e.g., change in major, over 24 units of CR/NC at graduation, loss of financial aid or for retention), and petitions should be limited to these situations.
2. Most courses that are required for a major have to be taken for a letter grade. When students change majors, students are sometimes required to change CR/NC grades to letter grades for major's courses. Currently, when students successfully petition to change from a CR/NC to a letter grade, the original faculty member has to be found to provide the letter grade. This is sometimes impossible. By grading every student using the letter grade mode, the later conversion from a CR/NC grade to a letter grade is automatic.
3. HSU limits students to 24-units of CR/NC that can be applied to graduation with an undergraduate degree. This requirement is only reviewed at the university level when students apply for a degree check. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student and his/her advisor to monitor the student's DARS report to ensure that no more than 24-units are applied towards satisfying graduation requirements.

Discussion:

It was noted that two additional reasons for petitioning were added: retention and financial aid.

- Q: Did the committee consider a tiered level grading system? A: Yes, the committee discussed it and the idea was discussed at the ICC as well. The consensus was not to implement a tiered-level grading system.
- Q: Why? A: The basic argument was that what it would cost to implement would far outweigh the actual benefits to students.

Voting on Resolution #05-10/11-APC occurred and **PASSED** with 1 No vote and 2 Abstentions.

M/S/P (Van Duzer/Cheyne) to make this an emergency item for immediate transmittal to the President.

7. Resolution on Faculty-Initiated Drop for Non-Attendance (#12-10/11-APC) – First Reading

M/S (Van Duzer/Heise) to place the resolution on the floor.

Discussion:

- Q: What are the benefits to having this policy? A: It allows students who are wait-listed to be added to the course as early as possible. Another benefit is that often students don't realize they are enrolled in a course and they don't drop it until it is too late and they end up with a WU.

- It was suggested that the wording “without notifying the instructor” be changed to “without receiving approval of the instructor before the absence”.
- The process is aimed at students who are going to end up not taking the course; it is not intended to be an enforcement mechanism for class attendance.
- The first sentence of the policy is problematic – it doesn’t indicate the timeline for the faculty member to drop the student. It needs to clarify when the faculty member is authorized to perform the drop.
- Several problems were noted with the policy: 1) many instructors don’t take attendance, 2) this would create extra work for instructors, and 3) there is nothing in the policy about accommodating emergency situations.
- The first sentence of the policy is confusing. It was clarified that it means that a student can miss any one class in the first 12 instructional days and be dropped. Q: Should it say a student can be dropped after missing so many days? Missing only one day is extreme.
- The HSU attendance policy requires students to attend the first week of class or notify the instructor. This policy is just giving the instructor the ability to initiate a drop for a student who would otherwise be dropped from the course; and allow room for students waiting to get in. The wording needs to be permissive, not required or mandatory.
- The HSU attendance policy is in place now, but faculty currently cannot initiate a drop. The resolution just needs to formalize the current policy and create the option for faculty-initiated drop.

8. Resolution on Changes to GE Area C and Area D (#13-10/11-APC) – First Reading

M/S (Van Duzer/Heise) to place the resolution on the floor.

Resolution on Allocation of Area C & D General Education in Compliance with EO 1033

#13-10/11-APC – November 9, 2010 – First Reading

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that the attached list of HSU courses designated for General Education (GE) Areas C & D be used for designating GE courses in the HSU Catalog.

RATIONALE: *Executive Order No. 1033 requires the division of Area C and Area D into sub-areas as follows:*

Area C: Arts and Humanities

Area D: D1 – Anthropology and Archeology

D2 – Economics

D3 – Ethnic Studies

D4 – Gender Studies

D5 – Geography

D6 – History

D7 – Interdisciplinary Social or Behavioral Science

D8 – Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions

D9 – Psychology

D0 – Sociology and Criminology.

Adjustments need to be made in the HSU Catalog to keep HSU in compliance with EO No. 1033.

Discussion:

- Q: Since this is just a compliance issue, does it need to be passed to get into the catalog? A: Yes.

M/S/P (Cheyne/Thobaben) to waive the second reading.

- Q: Didn't HSU combine areas D3 and D4? A: Yes, the major is combined at HSU. However this list is from the Chancellor's Office and can't be changed.
- It was noted only lower division courses are included in the list.

Voting on Resolution #13-10/22-APC occurred and **PASSED** unanimously.

M/S (Van Duzer/Cheyne) to make this an emergency item for immediate transmittal to the President.

A request was made to have documents on the revision of the constitution distributed to members of the Senate at least 24 hours in advance, in order to have time to read them before the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5 pm.