

**Rhode Island College**  
**Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Agenda**

Minutes for May 20, 2011

**2:00 - 2:30 P.M.**

Board of Governors Room

*This meeting is for all Undergraduate Curriculum Committee members who will be serving during the 2011-2012 academic year.*

**Present:** S. Abbotson (presiding); R. Auld; M. Aydogdu; D. Blanchette; D. Espinosa; I. Greitzer; B. MacDonald; C. Marco; C. McLaughlin (recording); J. Meade; P. Meyer; R. Pitt; T. Schmeling; E. Simson; L Cooley (COGE)

**Absent:** Donna Huntley-Newby

**Excused:** K. Ainley; V. La Ferla; S. McCarthy; J. Ogunda; E. Rowell

1. Call to Order : 2:05

- Welcome new members to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and explain responsibilities.

New members welcomed:

- Robin Auld – Health & Physical Education
- David Espinosa - History
- Vivian La Ferla – Mathematics (Nominated: waiting for vote)
- Liz Rowell - Elementary Education

- Accept nominations to the 2011-2012 Executive Undergraduate Curriculum Committee in the categories of Chair, Secretary, and two further members.

- Nominations for Chair

- Susan Abbotson(Schmeling/Meyer)

- Nominations for Secretary

- Charlie McLaughlin (McDonald/Schmeling)

- Nominations for two further members of the Executive Committee

- Bonnie MacDonald (Abbotson/McLaughlin)
- Tom Schmeling (Abbotson/McLaughlin)

- Vote for Chair

- Susan Abbotson - Unanimous

- Vote for Secretary

- Charlie McLaughlin - Unanimous

- Vote for two further members of the Executive Committee

- Bonnie MacDonald - Unanimous
- Tom Schmeling - Unanimous

- Thanks to those who have served: Suzanne Conklin, Jeanine Olsen, Andrew Synder

2. Other New Business

- UCC website contains the title of “Interim Dean” on Membership list. Need to make change to reflect change to Dean for Earl Simson & David Blanchette
- Description of duties and committee work
- Use computers – saving paper is a priority of this committee
- Committee manual revisions – membership responsibilities outlined
- Schedule for 2011 - 2012

3. Motion to adjourn at 2.20pm. (McLaughlin/Abbotson)

*At this point members whose service begins with the 2011-2012 UCC have the choice to either stay to observe the committee at work, or they are welcome to leave.*

**Rhode Island College**  
**Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Agenda**

Minutes for meeting of May 20, 2011

2:30 - 4:00 P.M.

Board of Governors Room

*This meeting is for all Undergraduate Curriculum Committee members who have been serving during the 2010-2011 academic year.*

**Present:** S. Abbotson (presiding); M. Aydogdu; D. Blanchette; S. Conklin; I. Greitzer; B. MacDonald; C. Marco; C. McLaughlin (recording); J. Meade; P. Meyer; J. Olson; R. Pitt; T. Schmeling; E. Simson; A. Snyder; L. Cooley (COGE)

**Absent:** Donna Huntley-Newby

**Excused:** K. Ainley; S. McCarthy; J. Ogunda

**Guests:** Tish Brennan; David Espinosa; Steven Threlkeld; Dante Del Giudice; Phil Palumbo; David Abrahamson; Betty Rauhe; Raimondo Kovac; Glennison de Oliveira; Kay Israel; E.J. Min; Anthony Galvez; Abbas Kazemi; Leslie Shuster; Ann Moskol

1. Call to Order 2:30
2. Minutes: Meeting of April 15, 2011
  - Curriculum Committee meeting minutes Moved to Approve (Schmeling/Aydogdu)
  - Action: Passed Unanimously
3. Report of the Chair
  - Announce new members and officers
  - New Guidelines for writing and submitting proposals will be revised over the summer and go into effect in the Fall
  - On-line forms will be revised – signature collection and checking will be improved, acknowledgments vs. approvals will be clarified
  - Timeline calendar will be placed on website for the Fall
4. Annual Reports
  - COGE – See handout below from L. Cooley
  - Student Designed Majors – See handout below from Dean Simson
  - Honors College -- See handout below from S. Hall
  - Continuing Education and Summer Sessions – Report below from D. Del Giudice

5. New Business

**HED**

Motion to Approve (Marco/Meyer)

10-11-083 Approve new course HED 110.

Betty Rauhe described the course. Withdrawal will be on an individual basis. Assessments grade based on attendance.

Action: Approved unanimously

**PSYC**

Motion to Approve (Simson/Conklin)

10-11-084 Approve changes in course titles for PSYC 221, 320, 473, 475, 476, and 477; change the course description for PSYC 477; and add descriptors to identify lab content (human/animal).

Chris Marco described course numbering system that is clearer for students; lab assignments for sections also described.

Friendly edit: Implementation Fall 2012

Action: Approved unanimously

Motion to Approve (Simson/Conklin)

10-11-085 Approve change in course title for PSYC 217; change course descriptions for PSYC 110, 230, 251 and 331.

Focuses on providing clearer descriptions of courses; course descriptions will reflect current emphasis of the field

Action: Approved unanimously

### ***FIN***

Motion to Approve (McLaughlin/Meyer)

Motion to bundle 10-11-086 - 10-11-088 (McLaughlin/Meyer)

10-11-086 Approve new course FIN 436 Fixed Income Analysis.

10-11-087 Approve new course FIN 441 Financial Derivatives and Risk Management.

10-11-088 Approve revisions to Finance BS program.

Abbas Kazemi described program changes and the relationship program would have with the CFA Institute. Changes create contemporary program and improve curriculum requirements necessary for accreditation.

Action: Approved unanimously

### ***WMST***

Motion to Approve (McLaughlin/Meyer)

10-11-089 Delete the Race, Gender and Class program; delete RGC 461, and create WMST 461.

Motion to Approve (McLaughlin/Conklin)

Motion to bundle 10-11-090 - 10-11-091 (McLaughlin/Conklin)

10-11-090 Approve revisions to Women's Study program; approve new course WMST 201.

10-11-091 Approve additional credit for WMST 300.

Leslie Shuster described the need for the changes and addressed the fact that Labor Studies no longer exists, so WMST will provide missing content in the WMST 461 course. WMST 201 will be geared toward WMST majors to provide them with competencies to interpret culture. The additional credit for WMST 300 will bring in line WMST field experience courses with others on campus.

Action: Approved unanimously

### ***AFRI***

Motion to Approve (Conklin/Snyder)

Motion to bundle 10-11-092 – 10-11-095 (Conklin/Simson)

10-11-092 Approve revisions to Africana Studies program (major and minor).

10-11-093 Approve new course AFRI 320 Hip-Hop: A Global Perspective

10-11-094 Approve new course AFRI 335 Race and Cyberspace

10-11-095 Approve new course AFRI 461 Seminar in Africana Studies

Kalihil Saucier described the changes to the major and the minor in Africana Studies. Program request to reduce the number of program credits, change required core courses, revise course offerings, and add three new courses to the program. These changes will permit students to double major in another field and explore new topics in this field of study. Program streamlined to avoid course substitutions.

Action: Approved unanimously

### ***COMM***

Motion to Approve (Greitzer/Conklin)

Motion to bundle 10-11-096 - 10-11-114 (McLaughlin/Greitzer)

10-11-096 Approve revisions to the Public Relations concentration in Communications program.

10-11-097 Approve revisions to the Mass Media concentration in Communications program.

10-11-098 Approve additional credit for COMM 240.

- 10-11-099 Approve additional credit for COMM 242.
- 10-11-100 Approve new course COMM 243 Writing for Digital Media.
- 10-11-101 Approve new course COMM 244 Digital Media Lab.
- 10-11-102 Approve new course COMM 302 Writing for News and Public Relations.
- 10-11-103 Approve new course COMM 312 Advanced News and Public Relations Writing.
- 10-11-104 Approve new course COMM 341 Music Video Production.
- 10-11-105 Approve additional credit for COMM 342.
- 10-11-106 Approve additional credit for COMM 344.
- 10-11-107 Approve changes to title, description, and prerequisite for COMM 345.
- 10-11-108 Approve additional credit, and changes to title and description for COMM 347.
- 10-11-109 Approve additional credit, and changes to title and description for COMM 348.
- 10-11-110 Approve new course COMM 445 Advanced Digital Media.
- 10-11-111 Approve new course COMM 446 Critical Studies in Mass Media.
- 10-11-112 Approve additional credit, and changes to title and description for COMM 340.
- 10-11-113 Approve deletion of COMM 232.
- 10-11-114 Approve deletion of COMM 434.

The discussion related to the program change included revisions to the Mass Media Concentration and the Public Relations Concentrations in the Communication Program.

- Phil Palumbo, et.al. described the need to keep students up-to-date in the communication field because of the unparalleled change in media and communication technologies. The program is revising its emphasis in Mass Media so that students will be able to gain skills that utilize digital media production. The curriculum will also provide students with enriched methods to analyze mass media from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
- COMM 302 & 312 were developed to replace course work that was provided by the English Department. Those courses are no longer offered. In response the COMM program replaced them with COMM 302 Writing for News and Public Relations & COMM 312 Advanced News and Public Relations Writing.

Action: Approved unanimously

### ***MATH***

Motion to Approve (McLaughlin/Conklin)

Motion to bundle 10-11-115 - 10-11-120 (McLaughlin/Conklin)

10-11-115 Approve revisions to Secondary Ed., Major in Mathematics.

10-11-116 Approve additional credit for MATH 300.

10-11-117 Approve additional credit, and change prerequisite for MATH 315.

10-11-118 Approve additional credit for MATH 432.

10-11-119 Approve additional credit for MATH 441.

10-11-120 Approve additional credit, and change prerequisite for MATH 458.

10-11-121 Approve additional credit for MATH 416.

Raimundo Kovac described the rationale for the revisions to the program. Additional credit hours to the courses will allow students to learn concepts in-depth, and have more contact time with instructors. The additional time will allow instructors to add important content to course work that might not otherwise be undertaken. The prerequisite for course work beyond MATH 300 (A grade of C or better) will insure that students won't struggle in their core classes. Emphasis on proofs and proof writing will strengthen student mathematical skills. The extra credit hours will also give students and instructors time to interact more closely with constant feedback. (Friendly edits will be reflected in new catalog copy)

Action: Approved 16 for --- 1 opposed

### ***CSCI***

Motion to Approve (Aydogu/Meyer)

10-11-122 Approve new course CSCI 467 Computer Science Internship.

Ann Moskol described the benefits of the Computer science internship. Students will be able to apply theory to real world projects. They will also be able to develop career skills through the internship enabling them to move into occupation more quickly.

Action: Approved unanimously

***CHEM***

Motion to Approve (Conklin/Simson)

10-11-123 Approve revisions to Secondary Ed., Major in Chemistry.

Glenisson de Oliveira described the need for the secondary education chemistry program to include an advanced elective in the major. The addition of an advanced chemistry elective will allow students to pursue course work in an area of scientific interest in greater depth. (Friendly edits will be reflected in the catalogue.)

Action: Approved unanimously

***TECH***

Motion to Approve (Pitt/McLaughlin)

10-11-124 Approve revisions to Technology Education program.

COMM deleted the two courses (COMM 232 and 434) that were used to satisfy the Graphic Communication elective for the TECH program. TECH will substitute an alternative, COMM 244 course, to satisfy this requirement.

Action: Approved unanimously

***COMM***

Motion to Approve (Conklin/Marco)

10-11-125 Approve change to prerequisite for COMM 246.

E. J. Min described the change to the program. This change completes a course sequence across the required production courses in Mass Media Communication. It will be required for elective production courses as part of the new program.

Action: Approved unanimously

6. Other New Business

7. Motion to adjourn. (McLaughlin/Snyder)

**Report of the Committee on General Education  
to the Rhode Island College Curriculum Committee**

**May 20, 2011**

COGE chair James Magyar was on sabbatical in the spring of 2011. I served as his sabbatical replacement this semester. He will be returning to COGE this coming fall.

At the beginning of the spring, COGE was “on hold” while the General Education Task Force (GE-TF) worked to put together revised outcomes and a new structure for the general education program here at RIC. The following page shows a timeline of the general education events from this spring. After the GE-TF submitted its draft proposal, they hosted three open meetings with faculty. COGE members were encouraged to attend these meetings, which were held on March 29, 30, and April 1. Their final draft was submitted April 21, and their final report with recommendations for assessment was submitted on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Task force members worked hard since September on the proposal and deserve our thanks.

COGE had four meetings in April and May, as shown on the timeline. Agendas for these meetings are also given on the next page of this report. All these meetings dealt with the new proposal, though there was only one meeting after the final version with assessment recommendations was submitted (submitted May 3<sup>rd</sup>, COGE meeting May 11<sup>th</sup>).

At its last meeting, on May 11<sup>th</sup>, COGE officially received the final report of the task force, including the recommendations for assessment. This meeting was well attended by faculty. Many TF members were there as well as many who were neither members of COGE nor of the TF, but simply came out of interest in the process. There were over forty people present at the meeting, representing more than thirteen departments. The fact that such a large group of faculty came to a COGE meeting at the busy end of the semester, in the middle of finals week, shows that RIC faculty are keenly interested in general education and willing to dedicate their time to a healthy and energizing discussion. While I will not be chair this coming fall, I look forward to participating in fall meetings on the subject of general education.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura F. Cooley  
Acting Chair  
Committee on General Education  
Spring 2011

**General Education:  
Spring 2011**

Committee on General Education  
April 8, 2011 – 10:00-11:00 AM  
Agenda

1. Opening comments/welcome
2. Scheduling of next COGE meetings
3. Task Force draft of new general education program
  - a. Review of the process thus far
  - b. Brief review of what the current draft contains
  - c. Strengths of proposal (see "comments" handout)
  - d. Discussion of concerns of members and faculty at open meetings (see handout)
4. Adjourn

Committee on General Education  
April 15, 2011 – 10:00-11:00 AM  
Agenda

1. Introductory comments
2. The case for science in general education
  - a. Prominent position of science in documentation from:
    - RI College – Vision statement
    - NEASC Guidelines
    - Essential Outcomes article – AACU/LEAP
  - b. Concerns of scientists on the RIC faculty
    - Letter from chair of physical sciences (Glenisson de Oliveira, former STEM director and co-PI for NSF (RITES) grant) to COGE, CC, Council
    - Memo from chair of biology and biology faculty to COGE (Eric Hall)
    - Letter from physical science department to Task Force
  - c. Comparison to other institutions (handout)
  - d. Scientific preparedness for modern world (jobs, quote on bottom of LEAP article handout)
3. Adjourn

Committee on General Education  
April 22, 2011 – 10:00-11:00 AM  
Agenda

1. GE-TF final report – plans for Town Hall style meeting to hear feedback on final proposal from faculty
2. Assessment – information and discussion
  - David Espinosa
  - David Sugarman
3. Summer availability
4. Adjourn

Committee on General Education  
May 11, 2011 – 12:30-2:00 PM  
Agenda

1. Welcoming remarks
2. Writing 100 Presentation  
Becky Caouette, Director of Writing, Q&A
3. Receipt of General Education Task Force's proposal, with assessment piece  
Maureen Reddy (chair of the task force) and/or other task force members, Q&A
4. Responses to structure proposed by GE-TF
  - Response from Glenisson de Oliveira, chair of physical sciences, former STEM director, Q&A
  - Response regarding quantitative reasoning skills, Q&A
5. Initial comments on General Education assessment by Pat Thomas, Assistant to the VPAA, Q&A
6. Closing Remarks by Chair
7. Adjourn

**GE-TF = General  
Education Task Force**

GE-TF submits preliminary proposal for gen ed structure

Open meetings hosted by GE-TF

1

2

3

COGE Meeting 1

GE-TF submits final proposal for new gen ed structure

COGE Meeting 2

COGE Meeting 3

GE-TF submits proposal with assessment recommendations

COGE Meeting 4

Mar 18

Mar 29

Mar 30

Apr 1

Apr 8

Apr 15

Apr 21

Apr 22

May 3

May 11

To: Susan Abbotson, Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Fr: Spencer Hall, Director of Honors

Re: Annual Report

Date: 5/11/11

Dear Sue,

Although the College Honors Program is not a subcommittee of, nor does it report to, the Curriculum Committee, you did request that I inform you regarding any activities or actions in honors that might be of interest to the Committee. I am, of course, more than happy to comply.

The thing that first comes to mind is Departmental Honors. On May 3, the Honors Program sponsored a Poster Session and an Awards Dinner for students graduating with Departmental Honors. The events were successful but raised issues that I may ask the Curriculum Committee to consider next year. While the awarding of Departmental Honors is the responsibility of the respective departments, there does need to be some uniformity among departments in terms of reporting, due dates, library submissions of completed projects, and the like. At the moment, there seems to be a certain amount of confusion about such things. I will be in conversation with departments and will draft suggested guidelines over the summer. Also over the summer, I will complete the review of information on honors on departmental websites that I began this semester.

The other major item on the horizon is, of course, General Education. Once the college has adopted a new General Education Program, I will begin work on a revised General Education Honors Program to be submitted to the Curriculum Committee for its approval. I hope that that process can be completed by Spring, 2012.

If you or the Committee have any questions, concerns, or thoughts that you would like to share with me, or if you would like me to come to one of your meetings, I am always available and would be pleased to meet with you.

Best,

Spencer

## Annual Report

### Committee on Student-Designed Majors

May 21, 2011

1. **Committee on Student-Designed Majors:** Annual Report for 2010-2011
2. **Submitted to:** Susan Abbotson, Chair, Curriculum Committee
3. **Prepared by:** Earl Simson, Chair, Committee on Student-Designed Majors
4. **Members of the Committee:**

Earl Simson, Dean, FAS

Karen Castagno, Associate Dean, FSEHD

David Blanchette, Dean, SOM

Joan Dagle, faculty, FAS

Charles McLaughlin, faculty, FSEHD

Suchandra Basu, faculty, SOM

No student representative appointed

5. **Meeting Dates:**

The Committee met once during the academic year: April 19, 2011

6. & 7. **Committee Actions and approvals:**

Elaine Allpress Childhood Learning

Kimberly Boghossian Music Literature

Adrienne DeSousa Wellness

Laura Kostenblatt General Science

Christopher Matciano Technological Studies

Mitchell Raiola Health Fitness (not approved – sent back for clarification)

Dennis Spicuzza Technological Studies

Greer Wyckoff Childhood Learning/Special Needs

8. **Significant Events:**

None

