

Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Minutes for the meeting of

December 20, 2013

2:00-4:00 P.M.

Board of Governors Room

Members Present: S. Abbotson (Chair.), M. Aydogdu, K. Castagno, P. Cordeiro, C. Cummings, S. Dixon, D. Espinosa, V. La Ferla, J. Magyar C. Marco, B. MacDonald, C. McLaughlin (Secretary), S. Mueller, R. Pitt, E. Simson, P. Thomas

Excused: S. Spinette, S. Breen,

Absent: ---

Visitors: K. Sanders, Mathematics; A. Del Vechio, Physical Sciences; A. Moskol; Mathematics; S. Pearlmuter, Social Work

1. Call to Order: 2:05
2. Motion to Approve Minutes: Meeting of November 15, 2013 (LaFerla/MacDonald)
Action: Approved Unanimously
3. Report of the Chair
 - Update on Subcommittee on Hybrid/Online Learning: Disbanded.
 - COOL is working on same problem; no need for redundancy
 - New data page on UCC website.
 - New site labeled "Monthly Actions" can be found at:
http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyActions.php
 - It is a capsule of the recommendations made by the UCC.
4. Monthly Report of COGE
 - To review this report, go to: http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php
5. Monthly Report of Writing Board
 - To review this report, go to: http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php
6. New Business
 - General Education**
 - Motion to Approve:** (LaFerla/Espinosa)
 - 13-14-059 Approve new course GED 262 Native American Narratives (GE C).
 - Discussion:** This course is unique as a connections course, because it focuses on narrative theory and qualitative research methodologies applied to the unique narratives of Native Americans through the original works and performances of Native Americans across a broad spectrum of literary genres.
 - Action:** Approved Unanimously
 - Philosophy**
 - Motion to Approve:** Marco/Espinosa
 - 13-14-060 Revise Philosophy BA to remove one required elective choice.
 - Discussion:** Philosophy majors will be required to satisfy their "Ethics" requirement with a course that is more typical of Philosophy courses; remove PHIL 322 as an Ethics option.
 - Action:** Approved Unanimously

Philosophy

Motion to Approve: Marco/Espinosa

- 13-14-061 Approve new course PHIL 266 Asian Philosophies: Theory and Practice.

Discussion: This course examines how philosophical theories inform personal and communal practice, and transform themselves over time as they move to new regions with different cultural backgrounds. It therefore focuses on connections between theory and practice, together with historical and geographical connections.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Biology

- 13-14-062 *Withdrawn*.

Finance/Economics

Motion to Bundle and Approve – 13-14-063, 13-14-064, 13-14-065 (LaFerla/Espinosa)

- 13-14-063 Revise FIN 431, 432, and 434 to change prerequisite (switching from MGT 249 to MATH 248).
- 13-14-064 Revise ECON 313 to change prerequisite (switching from MATH 240 or 248 to MATH 177).
- 13-14-065 Revise ECON 462 to change prerequisite.

Discussion:

- Materials covered in a new and revised MATH 248 are sufficient background for these courses and students no longer need MGT 249 as a prerequisite for these three FIN courses.
- Materials covered in a new and revised MATH 177 are sufficient background for these courses and students no longer need MATH 240 or 248 as a prerequisite for this course.
- ECON 314 should be added as a prerequisite because of the microeconomic content of ECON 462 seminar. Raising the prerequisite requirement from a 300 level to a 400 level course insures that the students have an applied theory class before this capstone seminar class, and will prevent students majoring in economics from taking ECON 313.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Computer Science

Motion to Approve: (Magyar/LaFerla)

- 13-14-066 Revise CSCI 305 to add a credit hour, change description and prerequisite.

Discussion: The increase in 1 credit for CSCI 305 is to provide students with a better understanding of Functional Programming, which is one of the three main programming paradigms in computer programming. This will be achieved by covering additional topics such as lambda functions and abstraction that are key features of this paradigm.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Physics

Motion to Bundle and Approve – 13-14-067 – 13-14-073 (Dixon/Magyar)

- 13-14-067 Revise Physics BA program into a Physics BS program (includes a number of new PHYS course options that follow).
- 13-14-068 Approve new course PHYS 309 Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (GE ASQR)
- 13-14-069 Approve new course PHYS 315 Optics (option for SE lab science)
- 13-14-070 Approve new course PHYS 321 Digital Electronics
- 13-14-071 Revise PHYS 401 Advanced Electricity and Magnetism I, changing title to create sequence.
- 13-14-072 Approve new course PHYS 402 Advanced Electricity and Magnetism II.
- 13-14-073 Approve new course PHYS 409 Solid State Physics.

Discussion: Program revision aligns RIC's Physics program with other B.S programs in the US. The B.S. degree is the preferred degree for industrial positions. The addition of the new courses gives students additional practical skills such as electronic or optical design, and the theory courses will give them a deeper understanding of advanced topics in physics that are only touched on in our existing courses.

Action: Approved Unanimously

Mathematics

Motion to Approve: (LaFerla/Espinosa)

- 13-14-074 Revise MATH 220 (formerly MATH 200), number, title, description and prerequisite.
Discussion: The course becomes a parallel course to Math 300, required for the Secondary Mathematics Education majors. Additionally, the change in emphasis will bring the course and its learning outcomes more in line with the new Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, which the students will be expected to know as they enter their professional teaching careers.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Computer Science

Motion to Approve: (LaFerla/Espinosa)

- 13-14-075 Approve CSCI 211 Computer Programming and Design, and CSCI 212 Data Structures.
Discussion: The proposed change is part of an ongoing evolution of the introductory sequence in computer science that should ease the articulation between CCRI, RIC, and URI, while retaining the strengths of our current sequence.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Social Work

Motion to Bundle and Approve – 13-14-076 – 13-14-083 (Marco/Espinosa)

- 13-14-076 Revise the CUS in Case Management, to become a CUS in Social and Human Service Assistance, deleting and adding courses, and changing title.
- 13-14-077 **Withdrawn**
- 13-14-078 **Withdrawn**
- 13-14-079 Revise SWRK 110 title, description, prerequisite and when offered.
- 13-14-080 Revise SWRK 111 title, prerequisite and when offered.
- 13-14-081 Revise SWRK 120 title, description, prerequisite and when offered.
- 13-14-082 Revise SWRK 230 title, prerequisite and when offered.
- 13-14-083 Revise SWRK 260 title, description, prerequisite and when offered. Also add additional credit.
Discussion: The addition of SWRK 240 to the certificate program makes it the entry-level course for our BSW program. With this additional offering, students in the certificate program and a faculty from the BSW program get to discuss academic and career pathways with students. Title revision better reflects what the nature of work that students will perform. The addition of 1 cr. to SWK 260 provides more time to develop agency-based writing skills.
Action: Approved Unanimously

History

Motion to Approve: (Espinosa/Simson)

- 13-14-084 Approve new course HIST 207 Quantitative History Through Applied Statistics (GE AASQR).
Discussion: This course employs statistics to enable students to broaden their historical reasoning so as to better assess the multiplicity of human, institutional, and environmental factors creating present and past historical reality.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Health Sciences

Motion to Bundle and Approve – 13-14-085 – 13-14-086 (Espinosa/Marco)

- 13-14-085 Revise Health Sciences BS concentrations in Dental Hygiene Completion and Respiratory Therapy Completion programs to eliminate the requirement of HED 102.
- 13-14-086 Revise Medical Laboratory Science program to change one of the required MATH courses from 181 to 209.
Discussion: HED 102 Personal Health was originally included in the Health Sciences BS concentrations in Dental Hygiene Completion (DHC) and Respiratory Therapy Completion (RTC) because it was a prerequisite for HED 233 Social Perspectives of Health. This prerequisite has since been revised and these courses no longer require HED 102.

MATH 181 was included in the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) concentration to provide an applied mathematics course in addition to statistics. With the possible impending removal of MATH 181 from the catalog, MATH 209 is being proposed to replace it.

Action: Approved Unanimously

7. Other New Business

None

8. Motion to adjourn: 2:35 (MacDonald/McLaughlin)

Future UCC Meetings Reminder: February 21; March 21; April 18; May 16.