

*Rhode Island College Curriculum Committee*

Minutes Meeting of September 17, 2010

2:00-4:00 P.M.

Board of Governors Room

Present:

Faculty: S. Abbotson (presiding); K. Ainley ; S. Basu ; D. Blanchette; S. Conklin; I. Greitzer ;

B. MacDonald; J. Magyar; C. Marco ; C. McLaughlin (Secretary); J. Meade; P. Meyer; D. Huntley-Newby J. Olson; R. Pitt; T. Schmeling ; E. Simson;

Students: S. McCarthy; J. Ogunba

Excused: A. Snyder; J. Williams

Absent: S. Pearlmutter; A. Sidorkin

Guests: Tom Meedle, Maureen Reddy, Paul Khalil Saucier

1. Call to Order: 2:02 PM

2. Minutes: Meeting of May 14, 2010 (Basu/Marco)

- Election meeting minutes
- Curriculum Committee meeting minutes

Action: Passed Unanimously

3. Report of the Chair

- Welcome new members and introduce executive committee

Stephanie McCarthy and Jeremy Ogunba will serve as undergraduate student representatives. Other vacancies were filled over the summer—see appendices.

- Courses that have not been taught for three years or more

List of courses not taught for three years will be forwarded to the Deans. Courses will be eliminated in Nov. if departments cannot justify listing in catalog.

- Outline plan for Curriculum Manual update

Summer work to update Curriculum manual continues. Old manual will be archived to preserve institutional memory. By-laws were consulted to assure alignment with Council. This work will continue until manual is suitably revised.

4. Report of COGE

J. Magyar reported on last year's COGE work. The committee assisted with developing proposals that would be forwarded for Curriculum Committee action. He recognized the work of the English and History departments. The committee is anticipating the results of the review by the Gen Ed Revision Committee (Reddy Committee) to development new programs to meet the needs of students at RIC. (See appendices)

5. New Business

Motion to Approve: (C. Marco/S. Conklin)

- Request to bundle: Approved
- 10-11-001 Approve ENGL 378 Studies in Composition
- 10-11-002 Approve ENGL 379 Studies in Rhetoric

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve: (S. Conklin/J. Meade)

- Request to bundle: Approved
- 10-11-003 Revise African American Studies program to be renamed Africana Studies.
- 10-11-004 Revise AFAM 200. Change name and course description.
- 10-11-005 Revise AFAM 262. Change name and course description.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve: (S. Conklin/J. Meade)

- 10-11-006 Revise BIOL 300. Change prerequisites to include BIOL 221 and BIOL 320.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve Revisions: (T. Schmeling/J. Ogunba)

- Proposal to update the Curriculum Committee bylaws to the Charter of the Council of Rhode Island College

Section A. Powers and Duties:

The Committee shall:

1. Be responsible for the approval *and oversight of all aspects* of the undergraduate curricula, *including honors programs and general education*. Implementation of Curriculum Committee decisions is subject to action by the *Vice President for Academic Affairs and the* President of the College.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

2. Initiate study of new curricula or changes in curricula, and consider suggestions for curriculum development from the administration, divisions, departments, *programs*, individual faculty members, and students. The Committee shall consult faculty concerned with particular curriculum proposals under consideration.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

3. ~~11. 3. Meetings shall be held~~ at least once a month during the academic year. Any faculty member may attend any meeting. Except in emergencies specified in the call of the meeting, an agenda shall be **printed published in the Briefs one week** prior to each meeting.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

4. Meet ~~at least once each semester~~ whenever *necessary possible* to review and evaluate the curriculum in general, to consider important problems and deficiencies in the curriculum, and to discuss its major goals and directions. Such meetings may be conducted largely under suspension of rules and without a formal agenda of specific proposals.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

5. ~~10. Publish on the Curriculum Committee website~~ **The Secretary shall distribute** the recorded minutes of each meeting ~~to the members of the Committee, Department Chairs, the Scheduling Officer, the Secretary of the Council of Rhode Island College, the deans/director, the Director of Records, Director of the Library, and Principal of the Henry Barnard School, and deposit the minutes in the central file for Committee minutes.~~

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

6. ~~3 Publish on the Curriculum Committee website~~ **Issue semi-annual reports to the faculty on** the decisions of the Committee and subsequent actions *taken* on these decisions, and list ~~of~~ proposals **which that** remain on the calendar.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve Revisions (Section B and C): (T. Schmeling/B. MacDonald)

B. Membership

The Committee shall consist of ~~23~~ 20 members:

1. Two faculty members from Art, Communications~~;~~ *and Music*, Theatre, and ~~Music~~ *Dance*.
2. Two faculty members from English, History, Modern Languages and Philosophy.
3. Two faculty members from Anthropology/~~Geography~~, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.
4. Two faculty members from Biology, Mathematics/Computer Science, and Physical Science.
5. Three faculty members from the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.
6. One faculty member from the School of Management ~~and Technology~~.
7. One faculty member from *the School of Nursing*.
8. One faculty member from the School of Social Work
9. *The Chair of COGE, ex officio*
10. ~~9~~. Two undergraduate students appointed annually as directed by Student Parliament.
- ~~10.. One graduate student accepted in a graduate program, appointed annually as directed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.~~
11. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall serve in an *ex-officio*, non-voting capacity. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall appoint two voting members from among the following: Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development, Dean of the School of Social Work, Dean of the School of Management, Dean of the School of Nursing.<sup>1</sup>

C. Elections and Officers

1. The elected members of the Committee shall serve for two-year ~~terms in such a manner as to provide~~ ~~for~~ staggered terms, *so that approximately half of the committee will be replaced each year*. No more than one *elected* member from any department may sit on the Committee at the same time.
2. *The Election of members of the Committee shall be conducted by the Elections Committee and shall take place in April of each year.*
3. *The Chair of the Committee shall be selected each May by the Committee-Elect from among its members.*

Action: Motion Approved: 17 yes – 1 abstention

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<sup>1</sup> The changes in this section were passed for the second time by Council on 9/10/10. They are subject to the approval of the President.

6. Other New Business

During the next meeting power cords will be provided for the laptops.

7. Motion to adjourn. (J. Ogumba/B. MacDonald)

*Next Meeting: October 15<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 BOG Room, Roberts Hall*

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Charles McLaughlin.**

Appendices:

1. Summer Actions

The following proposals were considered during the summer by the Curriculum Committee and voted on via e-mail.

Motion to Approve: (S. Abbotson/C. McLaughlin)

- 10-11-143 Restructure Modern Languages to delete the old French, Spanish and Spanish with a Concentration in Latin American Studies Majors, and replace them with a Modern Languages Major which offers concentrations in Francophone Studies, French, Latin American Studies, Portuguese and Spanish. There will also be a new Minor in Italian

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve: (S. Abbotson/C. McLaughlin)

- 10-11-144 New course as part of the new Modern Language major MLAN 320 Internship in Modern Languages.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

Motion to Approve: (S. Abbotson/C. McLaughlin)

- 10-11-145 New course as part of the new Modern Language major MLAN 360 Modern Language Seminar.

Action: Motion Approved Unanimously

The following Curriculum Committee Members were elected to fill vacant seats:

Ian Greitzer for Arts

Thomas Schmeling for Social Sciences (also elected to Executive Committee)

Peter Meyer for Science

Charles McLaughlin for Education (Also elected Secretary/Executive Committee)

Donna Huntley-Newby for Nursing

## 2. September COGE Report

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

**September 17, 2010**

As you are aware, the College is embarking upon an exciting process of review and renewal of the general education program for our students.

In the last academic year, COGE's work comprised maintenance and assessment. The first part of our work included learning about course proposals, helping the proposers to refine them, and moving many of them to Curriculum Committee for action. Our approach to assessment has been a devolution of the task to the departments offering the various portions of the program. The work of the History and English departments is especially notable for its depth, quality, and insight.

The new adventure of crafting a brand new way of educating Rhode Island College undergraduate students is a reflection not that the individual courses were poor experiences but rather that it is time to look with fresh eyes at providing programs for our present students that meet their needs and those of society.

This Fall, COGE will continue to hear proposals for courses that might be offered before the program changes. Much of our effort will be watchful waiting and offering any insight and perspective that we can collectively provide to the Reddy Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Magyar

Chair