

Rhode Island College Curriculum Committee
Minutes of the November 16, 2012
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.
Board of Governors Room

Present: S. Abbotson (presiding); M. Aydogdu; D. Blanchette; S. Breen; S.Dixon; D. Espinosa; V. La Ferla; M. Horn; R. Kirkwood-Auld; H. Magen; J. Magyar; C. Marco; C. McLaughlin (Secretary); S. Mueller; R. Pitt; E. Simson; S. Spinette; P. Thomas;.

Excused:

Absent:

Guests: M. Michaud; B. Rauhe; K. Tunnicliffe; K. Castagno; S. Gallaway; J. Blais; K. Benzinger; P. Irving-Jackson; D. Thomas

1. Call to Order 2:05
2. UCC meeting minutes for October 19, 2012
Action: Approved Unanimously
3. Report of the Chair:
Update on Electronic signatures
 - MATH 240 will be first class to use electronic signatures during the pilot test for acquiring signatures.
New Additions to the UCC website
 - New sections for monthly committee reports and annual reports have been added to the website. This will help make the minutes more manageable in the future.
4. Report of COGE
Can be reviewed at:
http://www.ric.edu/faculty/organic/coge/Report_to_UCC_11-16-12.pdf or
http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/pdf/COGENov2012report.pdf
5. Report of Writing Board
 - Working on 17th annual Faculty Development Day (1/16/2013)
 - Upgrading WB Website
 - Working with Board members PD to assist with the teaching of writing
 - E-mail to Department Chairs to announce writing initiatives
See Attached document.
6. *New Business*

Justice Studies

Motion to Approve (Espinosa/La Ferla)

- 12-13-007 Revise JSTD 491/492, add credit hour.
Discussion: The credit hours will change from 3 to 4. Prerequisites will remain the same. The course description will not change. The higher expectations for Justice Studies honors students will include a more ambitious project and greater weekly progress.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Physical Education

Motion to Approve (Espinosa/La Ferla)

- 12-13-008 Revise PED 247, add credit hour.
- 12-13-009 Approve new course PED 444 Specialization in Adapted Physical Education.
Discussion: The class meets 4 hours a week but as a two credit class was mostly an activity class. The requested change includes an increase in the amount of time students are in lecture; an increased number of tests; and hands-on teaching experiences. This warrants the jump from 2 to 3 credits. These changes are necessary to keep up with the current trends in the field.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Economics

Motion to Approve (La Ferla/Magyar)

- 12-13-010 Revise ECON 220, add credit hour and description.
Discussion: This course revision (increasing the credit hours from 3 to 4) allows for a more in-depth coverage of key topics and increases the topical coverage in ECON 200. A research/writing project has been added to the course. May qualify ECON 200 as an SB distribution course.
Action: Approved Unanimously

English

Motion to Approve (McLaughlin/Blanchette)

- 12-13-011 Revise ENGL 113, description.
Discussion: The change to the description is to emphasize the aspects of the course that make it appropriate for the General Education Arts distribution.
Action: Approved Unanimously

History

Motion to Bundle (12-13-012 – 12-13-016) and Approve (Espinosa/La Ferla)

- 12-13-012 Approve new course HIST 267 Europe and Beyond: Historical Reminiscences.
- 12-13-013 Approve new course HIST 268 Civil Rights and National Liberation Movements.
- 12-13-014 Approve new course HIST 269 Jazz and Civil Rights: Freedom Sounds.
- 12-13-015 Approve new course HIST 272 Globalization, 15th Century to the Present.
- 12-13-016 Approve new course HIST 273 Latin America and Globalization, 1492-Present.
Discussion: These new History 200-level offerings will be part of the new Connections General Education Category.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Dance

- 12-13-017 Revise DANC 215, description and add credit hour (under review)

Action: TABLED

English

Motion Approve (Espinosa/La Ferla)

- 12-13-018 Revise ENGL 263 Zen East and West, title and description.
Discussion: Changes to title and description are to better reflect the course's new focus as a Connections course for GE.
Action: Approved Unanimously

Nursing

Motion Approve (Espinosa/McLaughlin)

- 12-13-019 Revise NURS 223, add credit hour.
Discussion: This course revision adds one credit to a required sophomore level course. A change in the theoretical component will add one additional hour each week to the student's schedule. Students will spend more time in Nursing resource lab and have more clinical experiences. This change will reduce elective credits in the basic curriculum; however, they will remain within the 120 limit.
Action: Approved Unanimously

7. Other New Business

Motion Approve (Espinosa/La Ferla)

- 12-13-020 Deleting courses not taught in three or more years.
Discussion: None of these courses has been taught at RIC for more than three years, and there are no plans to teach them again. Each department has agreed that these courses should be deleted from the catalog. Other affected programs/departments have been notified, and all Deans will sign off.
Action: Approved Unanimously

8. Motion to adjourn. 3:15 (Magyar/Espinosa)

TO: Sue Abbotson, Chair of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC)
FROM: Mike Michaud, Chair of Writing Board (WB)
DATE: 11/16/2012
SUBJECT: Report on WB Activity (November)

We are consumed, at the moment, with planning our 17th annual Faculty Development Day (FDD) (1/16/2013). We have decided on a theme: *Yes You Can! Using Writing to Facilitate Learning in the Disciplines* and have confirmed our plans with our speaker. We have also confirmed our budget, booked our rooms, and have begun assembling a menu for the day. I am excited to say that this year we will collect responses from attendees via the “form” option on the RIC website (instead of asking faculty to email us, confirming that they will be in attendance). My hope is to get the word out about the FDD by the first week of December (poster, emails, Briefs, etc.)

In addition to planning the FDD, I am hard at work revising the RIC WB website with Kevin Middleton. I hope to have this process within the next few weeks.

At our last meeting, on 10/31, we continued to work towards offering Board members professional development in regard to the teaching of writing. I showed a brief PPT presentation defining key terms in writing pedagogy (WAC, WTL, WID) and a lively discussion ensued about teaching writing in the various disciplines. Via this discussion, we have begun to identify other opportunities for professional development here on campus, in at least two departments. I worked with Namita Sarawagi to begin to assemble a bibliography of resources for teaching writing in math and computer science, which she shared with her department.

After a lengthy process, I have gained approval to send emails from the WB account to Department chairs on campus and will be emailing a letter of introduction and offer-to-assist/consult on writing initiatives in the next week or so.

In sum, it is a busy time for the Writing Board as we attempt to pull together our main event for the year. We are optimistic that this year’s FDD will be as well-received as last year’s was and looking forward drumming up interest on campus for this year’s event. Our next and final meeting of the semester will be November 28, 2012.