

Rhode Island College Curriculum Committee

Minutes of the March 22, 2013 Meeting

Board of Governors Room

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Present: S. Abbotson (presiding); W. Akinbi; M. Aydogdu, D. Blanchette; S. Breen; S. Dixon; D. Espinosa; E. Irabor; R. Kirkwood-Auld; V. La Ferla (substitute secretary); H. Magen; J. Magyar; C. Marco; S. Mueller; S. Spinette; P. Thomas

Excused: M. Horn; C. McLaughlin; R. Pitt; E. Simson

Absent:

Guests: K. Castagno; P. Cordeiro; E. Hall; C. McKamey; E.J. Min

1. Call to Order at 2:09 PM
2. Approve UCC meeting minutes for February 15, 2013 (Marco/Megan)
Action: Passed (12-0-1)
3. Report of the Chair
 - Add S/U/H course designation to catalog copy
 - Assistance from the committee to determine if any courses in their respective constituencies have S/U/H graded courses.
 - Add a notification to course descriptions in the catalog where the S/U/H grade system is the only one used so that students will be better aware of each course's grading system.*Action:* Would like to have this information before the next meeting.
 - Should lower limit for credits be required for the Major?
 - Should it be determined by credits or courses?
 - Last years' sub- committee on credit limits discussed upper limits for majors but not lower limits: are these necessary?
 - Discussion surrounded the number of courses and credits for a major; concern for lower limit for credits in comparison to a minor. A minor is 18 – 24 credits; what should a major be?
 - What about the cognates? Should those be included in the limit?
 - Straw vote on whether we need to proceed to set a lower limit: 6-8-1*Action:* Current practice seems acceptable, but may revisit the issue if any future proposals offer alternative program models.

- Writing at RIC
 - Comments on the issue: We have courses in place to address this issue. The quality of student writing at RIC was a concern. We have 2 current writing requirements—writing 100 and writing in the discipline.
 - Include a no credit writing course—such as a teacher as writer course in education. Who would be expected to take this course? Required/optional?
 - On what basis do we have to change the writing requirement? The General Education program has an increased emphasis on writing; should we wait until the new courses are implemented? Do we have evidence or measureable data to support a need for more writing in the program?
 - In social work, out of 90 juniors admitted, a high proportion have been mandated to a supplementary support mechanism.
 - E. Irabor suggested students should take some personal responsibility for ensuring writing skills are adequate, and the college need not try to do everything for them.
 - Subcommittee in COGE is writing a set of rubrics and testing them in FYW. Rubrics are also being designed for FYS, and othe GE courses that include writing. Data will be available in the near future via the rubrics, the writing the board, and the assessment of the courses.

Action: Be vigilant of the issue and return sometime next year to view data been generated by COGE on FYS and Writing 100.

4. Report of COGE

- Report can be found at:
http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/pdf/COGEMarch2013report.pdf
- J. Magyar discussed the requirement for course outcomes. Courses that are fuzzy in describing how the outcomes will be met will be sent back. Those that are explicit in addressing the specific outcomes of COGE will sail through.
- List of Core 4 courses that have been converted to connections is about 1/3 and others are new. Some will fade away. By December we need as many courses in Connections as we had in Core 4.
- Put on your advising hat; Students cannot find General Education courses on RI Connect. There will be an electronic version of the brochure. Peoplesoft has issues. There are errors in the printed brochure. The class numbers for ENGL GE Literature courses are incorrect in the fall 2013 brochure; it will be correct on RI Connect.

- Core 3 offerings will eventually fade away. Courses not offered for 3 years will be deleted.

5. Report of Writing Board

- Report can be found at :
http://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/pdf/WBreportMarch2013report.pdf
- Summer 2013 Faculty Writing Workshop comes with a reimbursement of \$700.
- Description of other WB activities during Spring semester.
- Board continues to meet: share assignments between members; conduct workshops in Teaching & Learning and first year student writing.
- The new resources page will link to other schools' pages.

6. Old Business

Childhood Education

Motion to Approve: (La Ferla/Marco)

- 12-13-022 Revise ECED 429, change prerequisites, and revise ECED program cognates.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Art

Motion to Approve: (Magyar/Breene)

- 12-13-050 Revise ART 201, add credit hour and change title and description.:

Action: Unanimously Approved

7. New Business

Biology Medical Imaging

Motion to Bundle and Approve: (Magyar/Marco)

- 12-13-078 Revise Math requirements for all Medical Imaging programs.
- 12-13-079 Revise B.S. in Health Science Human Services concentration, switching in a prerequisite requirement and dropping one course to keep credits the same.
- 12-13-095 Revise BIOL 261, prerequisite, description, when offered. GE.C.

Discussion: Math requirement changes since Math 181 is being phased out. Math 139, 177 and 209 will replace Math 181.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Chemistry

Motion to Approve: (Magyar/ Thomas)

- 12-13-080 Revise BA Chemistry program, taking out Calculus III, adding Biochemistry and more upper level choice.

Discussion: More choice is good.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Motion to Approve: (Thomas/Megan)

- 12-13-081 Revise PSCI 210: Introduction to Astronomy, adding 2 contact hours for a lab, and one credit hour. GE. NS.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Anthropology

Motion to Approve: (Espinosa/Magyar)

- 12-13-082 Revise ANTH 265, change description, GE C.

Discussion: detailed topical outline and outcomes Discussion of the course description. How much should you focus on the topic for it to be in the description. Seemed like a minor part vs a major point.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Communications

Motion to Approve: (Akinbi/ Marco)

- 12-13-083 Revise COMM 241, add credit hour, change title and description. GE. A.

Discussion: Friendly amendment: Course description should be changed from economical to economic.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Psychology

Motion to Approve: (Breene/Spinette)

- 12-13-084 PSYC 347 (357), revise prefix number, description and when offered and revise where it fits in the PSYCH program.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Elementary Education

Motion to Bundle and Approve :12-13-085 through 12-13-094 (Thomas/Akinbi)

- 12-13-085 Revisions to the BA program, deleting several content majors, new and deleted courses.
- 12-13-086 Revise ELED 300, title and description
- 12-13-087 Approve new course ELED 400 Curriculum and Assessment with Instructional Technology

- 12-13-088 Approve new course 420 ELED Children's Literature and the Integrated Arts and delete ELED 424 Teaching Developmental Reading II.
- 12-13-089 Ignore-document withdrawn
- 12-13-090 Revise ELED 422, title, description and prerequisite.
- 12-13-091 Revise ELED 435, title, description and prerequisite.
- 12-13-092 Revise ELED 436, title and description.
- 12-13-093 Revise ELED 437, title and description.
- 12-13-094 Revise ELED 439, prerequisite, when offered, and reduce by one credit hour.

Discussion: If a program is over 120 credits it will be grandfathered since many education programs involve attaining two certificates. Programs that go over 120 credits must have a disclaimer in the catalog to make students aware that it is over 120 credits.

Health education is offering assistance to the ELED department in designing their courses. The Physical Education Faculty would like to extend their disappointment that PED 346 will be excluded from the El. Ed. Program. The students will be taking an on-line workshop on integrating Physical Education and movement into instruction. We have found there were many El. Ed. Majors who have had bad experiences in physical education; part of the course focused on advocacy on how physical education should be taught, often times, changing the perception. We are afraid students who have had bad experiences will not implement movement in the curriculum by having just this badges option.

Concern was also expressed that history is not directly offered in the Elementary schools and only through social studies, and concern over other science content being diminished at the cost of adding health science into a single course.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Africana Studies

Motion to Approve: (Akinbi/Magyar)

- 12-13-096 Revise AFRI 262, prerequisite, description, when offered. GE.C.

Action: Unanimously Approved

Theatre

Motion to Approve:

- 12-13-097 Revise THTR 240, add credit hour, and when offered. GE.A.

Action: Tabled due to signatures not being there.

8. Other New Business: None

9. Motion to adjourn. Time 3: 20 PM

Respectfully submitted by Vivian La Ferla