

**Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

**Minutes for the Meeting of**

December 18, 2015

2:00-4:00 P.M.

Board of Governors Room

**Members Present:** S. Abbotson, S. Breene, P. Cordeiro, S. Dixon, D. Espinosa, D. Halquist, C. H. Leung, R. Kim, J. Magyar, B. MacDonald, C. McLaughlin (Secretary), R. Pitt, S. Ross, E. Simson, S. Spinette, B. Ullah

**Student Members:** P. Hurd

**Members Excused:** S. Mueller, J. Sherry

**Guests:** S. Threlkeld, Psychology; T. Schmeling; Political Science

1. Call to Order: 2:10
2. Minutes: Approve the Minutes for the Meeting of November 20, 2015 (Hurd/Leung)  
**Action:** Unanimously Approved
3. Report of the Chair
  - Further progress on Academic RhodeMaps – see New business
4. Report of COGE  
Complete report available at: [https://www.ric.edu/curriculum\\_committee/monthlyreports.php](https://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php)
5. Report of Writing Board  
Complete report available at: [https://www.ric.edu/curriculum\\_committee/monthlyreports.php](https://www.ric.edu/curriculum_committee/monthlyreports.php)
6. New Business
  - Political Science**  
**Motion to Approve 15-16-035** (Spinette/Magyar)
    - 15-16-035 Approve revision of POL 309, new title and when offered.**Discussion:** Requests a revision to POL 309 title to Gender and Politics in the US. This revision better reflects course content and current terminology. A request to change course offering has been made; change to “As needed” because the department cannot guarantee it can be offered every Spring of odd numbered years.  
**Action:** Unanimously Approved
  - Management**  
**Motion to Approve 15-16-036** (Espinosa/MacDonald)
    - 15-16-036 Approve revision of MGT 469, return to older prefix and design of MGT 329.**Discussion:** Requests deletion of the recently created MGT 469, and restore the original MGT 329 Organizational Theory and Design course, with its original description.  
**Action:** Unanimously Approved

## **ART**

**Documents 15-16-037 – 15-16-040: TABLED until a meeting in the future.**

- 15-16-037 Approve revision of BA Studio ART program to switch cognates for more ART or ARTE courses.  
**Action: TABLED**
- 15-16-038 Approve revision of BA Studio ART and BFA Studio ART program concentrations in Digital Media (no longer require CIS/CSCI).  
**Action: TABLED**
- 15-16-039 Proposal withdrawn.  
**Action: TABLED**
- 15-16-040 Approve creation of all 48 upper level ART studio courses to be included in catalog with unique numbers, titles and descriptions, and listed using these in all ART department programs.  
**Action: TABLED**

## **English**

**Motion to Approve 15-16-041** (Magyar/Espinosa)

- 15-16-041 Approve new course ENGL 267 Books That Changed American Culture  
**Discussion:** Requests approval of a new Connections course: ENGL 267 Books That Changed American Culture.  
**Action:** Unanimously Approved

## **Political Science**

- 15-16-042 **Proposal withdrawn.**

## **Liberal Studies**

**Motion to Bundle and Approve 15-16-043 – 15-16-045** (Espinosa/MacDonald)

- 15-16-043 Approve revision of LIBS 100 to become the new LIB 261, new prefix, title, description, and prerequisite.
- 15-16-044 Approve revision of LIBS 461 to change prerequisite.
- 15-16-045 Approve new BA program in Liberal Studies.

**Discussion:** Requests made by (#043) and (#044) ask to make changes to the two approved Liberal Studies courses LIB 261 & LIB 461; they have not been used to date. (#045) requests the approval of a revised Liberal Studies BA program for which LIBS 261 and LIBS 461 have been revised. Original program did not gain BOG approval in 2011. The current LIBS 100 will become LIBS 261 Pre-seminar in Liberal studies, with a prerequisite of “60 credits and permission of the program director”, and have a new description. LIBS 261 will be a prerequisite of LIBS 461, which is the program’s capstone seminar.

**Action:** Unanimously Approved

**N.B.** Friendly amendment by Dr. E.J. Min: Please add COMM 354 to the courses listed in the Social Sciences of Section C.5 in this application.

### ***FILM Studies***

***Documents 15-16-046 – 15-16-048: TABLED until a meeting in the future.***

- 15-16-046 Proposal tabled.
- 15-16-047 Proposal tabled.
- 15-16-048 Proposal tabled.

***Action: TABLED***

### ***Political Science***

***Motion to Approve 15-16-049*** (Breene/MacDonald)

- 15-16-049 Approve revision of POL 306 to add a credit.

***Discussion:*** Request approval for the addition of one hour to POL 306 to allow for more writing and research; this course will be designated the “writing in the discipline” course for Political Science.

***Action:*** Unanimously Approved

### ***Biology, Neuroscience***

***Motion to Bundle and Approve 15-16-050 – 15-16-052*** (Espinosa/Leung)

- 15-16-050 Approve new course NEUR/BIOL 443 Fundamentals of Neurobiology.
- 15-16-051 Approve new course NEUR 460 Current Issues in Neuroscience
- 15-16-052 Approve new program: BS in Neuroscience.

***Discussion:*** Requests approval of two new courses and a new program. (#050) will be the first new course and crosslisted as: NEUR/BIOL 443 Fundamentals of Neurobiology. (#051) creates the new course: NEUR 460 Current Issues in Neuroscience, providing a capstone seminar in which students majoring in Neuroscience explore a current issue in the field.

(#052) requests the creation of a new program: BS in Neuroscience.

Extended comments from UCC members:

- Potential for lots of development in this program;
- MD, PhD, and undergraduate expansion in an area where there is a lack of programs;
- Opportunity to create collaboration and dialogue with programs/institutions outside of RIC;
- Psychology dept. currently has 4 four members who are identified with Neuroscience backgrounds
- Opportunities for cross-disciplinary initiatives – Neuroscience shows up in many other disciplines at RIC
- Bio dept. supports initiative with some reservations:
- Concerns:
  - BIO dept. concerned about small number of faculty
  - Size of program

***Action:*** Unanimously Approved

### ***ART***

***Document 15-16-053: TABLED until a meeting in the future.***

- 15-16-053 Approve new course ART 496 Web Design: Principles and Practice.

***Action:*** TABLED

7. Other New Business.

- Academic RhodeMaps (RM)
  - Refining the documents continues;
  - Helps advisors ID and navigate other parts of a program;
    - Gen Ed
    - Language
    - Electives
  - Dr. Abbotson provided copies of program to Freshman students;
    - Received comments and feedback about the format and making the RM easier to read;
    - Suggest placement of instructions at front of document;
    - Want more graphically pleasing format
  - RM should be considered helpful tool;
  - Maps are accurate reflection of the path through a program to graduation;
  - EUCC will head up revisions and formatting;
  - Submissions should be made to EUCC

8. Motion to adjourn. 3:10 (MacDonald/Cordeiro)