EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, September 19, 2014

2:00-4:00 pm

Conference room, 123 Snyder

**Saint Paul Campus**

NOTES

**Present:** James Cotner, David Kirkpatrick, Jane Glazebrook, Jean Underwood, Fumaki Katagiri, Lorene Lanier, Alexandra Martin, Akila Pai, Stefanie Wiesneski, Bob Meisel, Sandra Stoup, Deana Wassenberg, Jane Phillips, Barbara Irish

**Absent:** Leslie Schiff, Susan Wick, Nikki Letawsky Schultz

2:05-2:10P Introductions

2:10-2:12P Approve minutes from May 16, 2014 meeting

* Approved by all (abstaining: Alexandra Martin and Akila Pai)

2:30-2:45P Old Business (tabled, then re-introduced upon Paul’s arrival just after the

start of new business)

1. Updates on modified Physics and Chemistry courses (Paul Siliciano)

* Currently reviving new Chemistry series
  + CSE support needed from CBS currently unclear
  + Chemistry proposal: Replacing Chem 1, Chem 2, Organic and BioC with a new three course Chemistry sequence
  + Curriculum is ready to go, but Chemistry Dept needs time to figure out how to implement changes (this is a redistribution, not an enrollment increase for them)
  + Curriculum will change credits taken, which is a bit of a sticking point with CSE
* Will also be looking into revising the Physics series of classes, but waiting until Chemistry has been implemented
  + Work group will be needed to discuss: What is the ideal curriculum for students (either 2 3cr courses, or 1 5cr course)?
* CFANS has not been involved in discussions thus far, but since CFANS students would benefit from new offerings, it could be beneficial to add them to the discussion early on.
* Ecology and Neuroscience Depts. Would also like to be part of the conversation
* Action item: by the end of Fall 2014, identify a work group to address Physics curriculum changes.

2:12-4P New Business

1. Nsci 1002 course proposal (Bob Meisel)

* Proposed additional course offering Nsci 1002: “Understanding Others”
* Would be open to any student in any major
* Could be used as non-distrib elective
* 200 students/semester are enrolled in Nsci 1001, and many have expressed a desire to take another class with the same organization/openness to non-majors
* There are currently issues with pre-req additional requirements, and this offering would solve that issue
* There is no projected major impact on any major/minor programs
* Class will explore social neuroscience, which is a rising field (examines human condition, genes/molecular events combined with neuroscience)
* There should be no duplication with Psychology Dept. offerings (waiting to hear back from the DUGS faculty, and will pass along their feedback)
* Textbooks: The Scientific American – Day In the Life of Your Brain and The Human Brain Book
  + Low-priced, accessible, and supplemented with “Scientific American-type” overview of topics
* Class enrollment is projected at 100 per semester
* Course will be primarily lecture
* Exams: short essay/short answer, integrating material/generating research findings
* Main points of lecture will be posted on Moodle for study help
* Very little redundancy between 1001 & 1002
  + Some topics overlap with 3000-level courses, though at a much more general/introductory level
* Course will be offered in Spring for Neuroscience minor
* There are currently 132 Neuroscience minors, most from CLA
* New offering should not affect enrollments in other minor courses (since it can be used as a non-distrib credit)
* Action item: Bob will email David Kirkpatrick after getting responses from the Psychology DUGS, and then David will email to the group for a group email vote.

1. Mol Bio course outline and LE discussion – Technology and Society (Paul, David)

* New course offering at 3000 level, with LE component
* GCD 2002 could have significant overlap—will need to give chance for 2002 instructors to comment on new offering. Currently 2002 has 30-40 students, many non-GCD.
* New course would be required for all students in CBS—would be a pre-req for BioC, Genetics and Cell Dev and geared toward CBS students
* Initially, enrollment in GCD 2002 could drop, but would increase with more outlying minor offerings.
* David and Paul will teach in the Spring to test curriculum without the LE component (will count as GCD elective)
* Could offer an online test-out option at the Testing Center 1 week prior to course registration (early April & early November)
* Will need to notify upper-level curriculum faculty of new offering/future requirement: students are approved for upper-level courses after this new course, and they have a different course background than previous students enrolled.
* Hope to have full LE approval by Fall 2015 (Jane Phillips to assist)
* Will be dual-faculty, so 2 additional faculty instructors needed
* Jean Underwood needs a title to create a special topics course (syllabus not necessary for special topics approval)
  + Suggested: “Molecular Biology & Society”

1. Sub-committee to determine Minors structure (David)

* Subcommittee will to look at potential minors in CBS for non-CBS students
* Could leverage 1000- and 2000-level courses
* Looking to add 3-6 additional minors for non-majors
* EPC needs to determine the structure (hierarchy, designation, overlap, etc.)
* Minors need to be approved at the Regents level, so best to send all majors together for approval (this will also aid in official announcement to U community and to the press)
* Provost has tasked CBS and CFANS with coordination of additional minor offerings for CFANS students
* Volunteers for work group: Cotner, Underwood, Lanier, Kirkpatrick, Wiesneski, Pai

d. Student Services Update (Stefanie)

- Career Counselor search update

* Career Services is back in the hands of CBS Student Services
* New career counselor hired, Rebecca Christy, currently in training

- Scholastics Committee 2013-14 report

* TABLED

1. Update on Assessment strategies for CBS undergraduates (Jane and David)

* For future assessment, a General Knowledge assessment across all majors/disciplines in CBS needed
* Proposed system: create a question bank from all of the primary CBS courses which operates in Moodle; results will be recorded 3 times (after NOL, ½ way through program, and prior to graduation)
* Questions will e tagged & randomized in Moodle, creating 50-question test
* Results will be used by the college to show effectiveness of courses, programs

f. Update on Course Catalogs under new student registration system

* Course guides will be coming back under control of the departments (rather than being managed centrally). Current format will completely disappear.
* Technical solutions will be necessary to make this transition successful
* Will need system live by the end of March
* Action item: Jean & Jane to set up meeting with Mike Waltonen to discuss potential solutions

g. Additional updates (Jean)

* Course proposal forms will be up on CBS website