

## Curriculum Sub-Committee 2014 - 2015

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| Date                  | October 27, 2014 (approved 11.10.14)  |
| Members in attendance | Sheryl Grana, Dahui Li, Georgia Kenney, Jerry Pepper, Kim Riordan, Guy Sander, Arden Weaver |
| Members absent        | none  |
| Invited guests        | none  |

Notes: The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

The minutes from the October 13, 2014 meeting were approved.

Faculty Council update: (a) they are also discussing UMD Seminar and (b) Westmoreland Flint will be talking to groups on campus regarding the "Those who can Duluth" slogan.

Other College Curriculum issues include: CLA – special topics now just need dean approval, not college curriculum committee. SCSE – strategic planning charge from Dean including review of financial concerns. LSBE – two program proposals expected Financial Planning major and Entrepreneurship minor. CEHSP – two new programs had been approved under previous dean, with no additional funding allowed needing to be readjusted under new leadership. Jerry noted Andrea had been willing to approve programs but since funding is moved to colleges, the dean is responsible for the funding issues. SFA – no new issues.

UMD Seminar Task Force will be meeting later today. Concerns from the Curriculum subcommittee include the need to define the mission and goals of the UMD Seminar providing a measurement of the objective and if focus groups or survey would be a good way to see if the mission and goals are accomplished. It was noted this would not be a satisfaction survey but an application survey to establish what students learned, noting they may not necessarily realize the value of a course until much later. Results will give us the opportunity to focus on what and how UMD should change; this would be a rolling assessment and not the generic evaluation, a program evaluation not a course evaluation. SIT/UMD Seminar cannot be held to a higher expectation than the rest of the campus. This is one of a number program courses "owned" by the campus but this is the only course that is being evaluated. It is likely there will be the same format next year; however, the report is due by the task force in February so there may be some time for a fall 2015 response and change. The final report will be delivered to this committee. If course changes include credit changes, program changes may also have to be made. Question if professional staff will be allowed to continue teaching. Jerry will give feedback to the committee today.

An issue was brought to Faculty Council regarding the approval process for short term study abroad courses. Curriculum committees differ among colleges and the suggestion has been made (by Faculty Council members) that perhaps a better way of vetting courses to be taught as short term study abroad courses would be approval in the institution-wide Curriculum Committee. An example was brought up about faculty expertise and a college committee may not realize that a similar course (or faculty expertise) may exist in another college and that all should be aware of that in the decision making process. Kim pointed out that adding another layer of course review and approval would set the date for

applications of short term study abroad back even further. Presently, applications for the following May term are due October 1 of the previous year. Adding another review would mean a faculty member will need to be planning even further ahead. Neither Kim, nor IEO, has an interest in either way, but there may be an unintended consequence to faculty members who do not allow themselves plenty of planning time.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:58

Next Meeting Scheduled      November 10, 2014 9:00 AM

Respectfully Submitted by    Nancy Burley