

# UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

## Minutes

May 11, 2009

1. The minutes of the April 13 meeting were accepted.
2. Professor Greg Faller reported on the following proposals discussed during the April UCC meeting:
  1. BS in Art+Design (Nora Sturges)  
– sent to Catalog (Laura L. Brown) 5/4/09
  2. Art Education major (Nora Sturges)  
– sent to Catalog (Laura L. Brown) 5/4/09
  3. Art History major (Nora Sturges)  
– sent to Catalog (Laura L. Brown) 5/4/09
  4. Art+ Design minor (Nora Sturges)  
– sent to Catalog (Laura L. Brown) 5/4/09
  5. BFA in Art+Design (Nora Sturges)  
– forwarded to University Senate (will discuss in September)

The following, discussed and provisionally approved at the February meeting (sic), is still pending:

1. LGBT Studies Minor (Jim Di Lisio)  
– as of 3/6/09 still waiting for amended Form C  
(A follow-up communication to Prof. Di Lisio was sent on 5/12/09)

3. Professor Faller updated the Committee on the new program approval process. Assistant Provost Catherine Horta-Hayden has drafted a proposal cover sheet on which to record relevant signatures and provide a paper trail. We will not house the form ourselves, but we plan to link to the form from our web page and refer to it on Form C.

4. Professor Faller explained that he, Mr. Bob Giordani, and Ms. Gass had met with catalog editor Laura L. Brown on April 16, and distributed a draft letter that explains the Committee's role within the catalog revision process. The period from November through April (after the initial catalog copy revisions have been submitted, up until the deadline for galley revisions) has been a time of some confusion on how to submit newly approved changes to the catalog. Professor Faller sought any feedback on the letter.

5. Professor Faller advised the Committee about upcoming membership changes. He will be stepping down as chair with the 2009-10 academic year due to new EMF chair responsibilities. Professor Leneida Crawford will leave the Committee as she transitions to chair of Music. Ms. Gass' tenure on the committee will also be ending. Elections will take place during the initial meeting in September (Professor Faller and Ms. Gass will attend this first meeting). University Curriculum Committee memberships are presidential appointments (currently only a single name per college is forwarded to the President for approval).

6. Professor Scott Hilberg presented a revised proposal for a new major in Information Technology. Committee members will recall that this proposal was earlier discussed during the December 8, 2008 meeting. At that time the Committee had unanimously voted to table the proposal until the following conditions had been met: 1) 100% of the core courses have been approved; 2) 50% of the courses

comprising each specialization have been approved by the Course Approval Reporting Committee; and 3) A proposal regarding the disposition of the B.T.P.S. in IT had been submitted to the Committee.

After the initial discussion of the proposal, the department offered to delay implementation until 2010. Though this makes the launch of the program logistically more feasible, the essential point is that at Towson it is common protocol for new courses to be approved prior to, or in parallel with, new programs. Mr. Bob Giordani noted that MHEC requires course numbers and descriptions in the new program proposals, so UCC's expectations are in line with the larger new program approval process.

The revised proposal does indicate that the BTPS program in Information Technology will be discontinued, with no additional students being admitted, simultaneous with the launch of a new IT major.

In answer to a question, Professor Hilberg clarified the differences among Computer Information Systems (now simply Information Systems, as recently approved by the University Senate), Information Technology and Computer Science. Computer Science's focus is engineering and design; students would study topics such as operating systems and security. Information Systems attends to business processes and data flow; IS graduates might develop an application tailored to an individual company's needs. The field of Information Technology is devoted to the hands-on implementation and integration of technologies. In developing the proposal Computer and Information Sciences has followed the curricular recommendations of the ACM, its accrediting body.

In the revised proposal, the department has decided not pursue the areas of specialization, taking into account that these low-credit clusters would not appear on the transcript and that these areas could be added later on. The Committee was somewhat surprised at the scaling back of the electives, given that 13 new electives had been envisioned in the first proposal.

Seven new courses, with five in the core (Fundamentals of Web Technologies, Data and Information Management, System Administration and Maintenance, System Architecture and Integration, and ITEC Capstone) had been submitted to the Course Approval Reporting Committee and discussed during their meeting on May 11th. Within CARC, concerns had arisen about overlap with existing e-Business and Technology Management courses. (In December's UCC meeting, a suggestion to collaborate with CBE had been made.)

Had the Computer and Information Sciences Department spoken with the College of Business and Economics about the courses or program? Professor Hilberg answered that it had not.

In light of the discussion in the Course Approval Reporting Committee, CARC would require a statement of no overlap to be submitted by relevant departments.

Ms. Tracy Miller moved and Professor Margaret Faulkner seconded the motion to table the proposal, until a statement of no overlap could be given to CARC by CBE. The motion carried, with **8** votes in favor.

7. Professor Jay Zimmerman presented changes to the Actuarial science and Risk Management concentration. The department had added a new course, MATH 4xx (Actuarial Model Construction), to qualify for the designation of Center of Actuarial Excellence from their accrediting body, the Society of Actuaries. Two of the electives, MATH 337 (Applied Regression & Time Series Analysis) and MATH 439 (Computational Probability Models), will now be required, and the final elective, MATH 437 (Operations Research) will now be eliminated. The concentration will now be 81 units, up from 76-77 units. An attached letter lays out "Common Core Mathematics Courses" that the department considers

key either to the Math curriculum or for actuarial competencies: MATH 265, 267, 273, 274, 275, and 369. (These common core classes are not separately broken out in the catalog copy.)

Professor Faulkner moved and Professor Crawford seconded the motion to accept the proposed changes. The motion carried, with **8** votes in favor.

8. The Committee unanimously voted to table the Health Care Management major proposal because of a lack of representation. In particular, the Committee was unsure why HCMN 413 and HCMN 417, included under Required Courses, reappeared under the Long-Term Care track.

Professor Crawford moved and Ms. Gass seconded the motion to table the proposal. The motion carried, with 8 votes in favor.

9. Professor Teresa Jackson presented a proposal for a new Public Health track, to be open to declared Health Science majors. This track is inspired by the need for health professionals to become more versed in this pressing area, and is well-suited to Towson's Metropolitan role and interdisciplinarity. This track would benefit graduates applying for Master's in Public Health. This track will call for a new course, HLTH 1xx (Introduction to Public Health) and for a recasting of HLTH 201 (to be reframed as Introduction to Global Health).

Professor Jackson explained that this track would be most relevant as a compliment to Community Health Education concentration. The Community Health Education concentration to which Professor Jackson referred is not broken out separately within the catalog. The requirement for tracks and concentrations to be sufficiently distinct from others at TU necessitates that UCC gain a better understanding of what this concentration comprises.

Professor Crawford moved and Ms. Gass seconded the motion to table the proposal. The motion carried, with **8** votes in favor.

10. Professor Ocie Watson-Thompson and Professor Terry Berkeley presented a proposal for changes to the Early Childhood Education Program. Since 1966, the program (which has a record of 100% placement) has stood at 128 credits. It has been a five-year process to alter the program in accordance with state and national certification (as well as those of the seven adjoining districts). Their goal was to keep up with standards, while keeping credits in line, and offering choices wherever certification was not an issue, so as to minimize the need to grant exceptions. Some innovations include a new Integrated Arts course, and the fulfillment of various areas with any Gen Ed course within certain categories. (The department is aware that Gen Ed changes are upcoming.) Duplicative courses have been eliminated. A 400-level Preprimary Internship has been added to better assess students' development. Other changes include scheduling adjustments to manage student workload. The ECED 4xx courses have been approved.

Ms. Miller moved and Professor Faulkner seconded the motion to accept the proposed changes. The motion carried, with **8** votes in favor.

11. Professor Tim Sullivan presented proposed changes to the Major in Economics. To enroll in ECON 309/310, students will need to have taken MATH 211 or 273. This prerequisite should ensure better preparation for the material. (Note: MATH 211 was originally designed for Business students.)

This change is also reflected in the proposals submitted for the Honors program of the Economics major,

the combined major with Political Science, and the combined major with Geography and Environmental Planning.

Professor J.J. Lee moved and Professor Jay Zimmerman seconded the motion to accept the proposed changes for the Economics major, Honors program, combined major with Political Science, and combined major with Geography and Environmental Planning—with approval for changes to the combined major with Political Science pending receipt of a letter of support from Professor Jim Roberts. The motion carried, with 8 votes in favor. (The letter of support from Professor Roberts was received on 5/12/09.)

12. Professor Kent Barnes and Professor Bob Rook presented proposals for a combined major in History and Geography and Environmental Planning. The result of a three-year planning process, the combined major should enhance job opportunities for students coming from either field. GIS and geographic fluency are increasingly important in the field of History. The Geography department has much experience with combined majors. A key component of the combined major is cross-departmental acceptance of particular upper-division electives. Because of the large number of upper-division History electives, Geography has chosen not to list them exhaustively, but rather to explain the criteria for the combined major. Mr. Bob Giordani recommended extreme caution in doing this because catalog discrepancies had previously caused problems for some other combined majors. Professor Barnes verified after the meeting that the copy was as desired and would resist misinterpretation. Mr. Giordani moved and Ms. Miller seconded the motion to accept (both iterations of) the proposed new combined major. The motion carried, with **8** votes in favor.

14. The UCC meeting adjourned at 5:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana M. Gass  
Secretary, University Curriculum Committee