Westfield State University

Curriculum Committee Minutes for Thursday, February 6, 2014

Members in Attendance: Brian Jennings, Joe Camilleri, Christine Irujo, Steven Mailloux, Matt Carlin, Aaron O. Reyes, Andrew Bonacci, John Ohotnicky, Carsten Braun, Tarin Weiss, Liam Harte, Sinuk Kang, Hugo Viera, Max Saito, Tom Raffensperger, Heather Brown,

Guest(s): Kate Stanne, Holly Noun

(3:50) Meeting is brought to order, and introductions by all those in attendance are made for the benefit of new members, and for old…sorry, not old…established members with bad memories.

(3:51) Committee takes up approving of several sets of previous minutes. In reverse chronological order the committee first looks at the minutes from 12/3/2013. In the first sentence the word ‘be’ should be changed to ‘me’, and the question is raised as to why some parts of the minutes are in bold. The previous secretary isn’t present to answer the question. The committee then looks at the minutes from 11/21/2013. Minor grammatical errors are noticed in the section pertaining to the approval of CAR 13-54. A motion to approve the minutes from 11/21/2013 (with corrections) is made, and seconded so fast that the secretary couldn’t see who made either motion. The minutes are approved by a vote of: FOR 11, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 3. Minor grammatical errors are noticed in the minutes for 12/3/2013, again a motion to approve with grammatical corrections is made and seconded in a nanosecond (it’s going to be one of those kind of meetings for the secretary). The minutes are approved with a vote of: FOR 8, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 7 (that almost went to the abstentions).

(3:56) Introductions continue for members who have arrived since introductions were first made. Emily Todd remarks that she doesn’t follow directions, the chair of the Curriculum Committee seconds that motion. No vote is held…I guess it was tabled.

(3:57) Joe Camilleri gives a summary of the ad-hoc subcommittees assessment work, namely that they have been working through the language if the core objectives and learning outcomes as a first step in devising an assessment program. Noting that ad-hoc committee member Eric Bressler is on sabbatical, a chill runs down the spine of many members who wonder if we will be able to handle all of the Oxford comma situations without him, and needs replacing. No one volunteers. The secretary mentions that the ad-hoc committee is really fun, several derisive snorts are made, but no one volunteers. Fine then, more glory for the rest of us.

(4:00) Committee welcomes guests from the Department of Movement Science, and then takes up CAR 13-10. Liam Harte asks if Kate Stanne or Holly Noun have anything to add…they do not. Emily Todd mentions that the last sentence in the proposed course description doesn’t read right. The language is modified to “Designed for pre-service teachers who plan to work with children…” (ellipsis denotes no changes to remaining text in the sentence.) Emily Todd then suggests that the last sentence be split into two sentences, reading “Designed for pre-service teachers who plan to work with children at the elementary level. This course supports…” (ellipsis denotes no changes to remaining text in the sentence.) The committee thinks this over, and then Emily Todd recommends we go back to the first plan for modification. A motion to approve CAR 13-10 as amended is made and seconded, and the vote to approve was: FOR 15, Abstain 1, Against 0.

(4:07) Committee takes up CAR 13-11R. John Ohotnicky brings to the committees attention that the portal only has CAR 13-11, and then proverbially speaking…fecal matter hits an bladed oscillating air mover. Liam Harte calms the committee down with some relevant documents that he had up his sleeve. Aaron Reyes offers an idea as to how the documents should be understood. At this point no one understands the ‘R’ in 13-11R. John Ohotnicky gets on the classroom CPU (which incidentally is running Windows XP…seriously IT…seriously) to look at the documents of 13-11 and 13-11R. John didn’t call seat-check, which will cost him his seat later in the meeting. It is noted that the dates that they were submitted to AUC are different. The paper copies are compared to the pdf versions. Carsten Braun offers the idea to table this CAR until we straighten out this issue. Many members agree, and it is so tabled.
Committee takes up CAR 13-14R. Emily Todd motions to approve. Aaron Reyes notes a lack of consistency about prerequisites in documentation from TEC, the current CAR, and the syllabus provided. Holly Noun says we need MOVP 203 and intermediate standing as the necessary prerequisites. Also, changes are made to the CAR, namely the box denoting ‘change prerequisites’ is checked. The question as to whether we can make these changes without TEC approval is brought up. Liam Harte says that we will vote as we see fit and then put it on AUCs plate, and that he’ll sleep perfectly fine tonight. A motion to approve CAR 13-14R as amended is made and seconded, and passed with a vote of: FOR 15, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 0.

Committee takes up CAR 13-15. Joe Camilleri asks about prerequisites MOVP 260/261 and MOVP 262 (as listed). Holly Noun and Kate Stanne describe how MOVP 260/261 have changed and how they want to update the courses prerequisites as a result of those changes. John Ohotnicky says that such changes do need to go through governance. The prerequisites being requested are, after a long conversation displaying the utility of parentheses in mathematical expression…if only we could hear the parentheses in our voice, are (Intermediate Standing) and [(MOVP 260 and MOVP 261) or (MOVP 262 and MOVP 26X from AUC CAR 13-19)]. Christine Irujo notes that the change prerequisites box need to be checked. John Ohotnicky wants to make sure that the MOVP 26X is explicitly connected to AUC 13-19 so that he remembers. Emily Todd mentions that a 40-hour pre-practicum in the old bulletin language isn’t in the new language. After consideration added to the new bulletin text will be (right before the prerequisites are stated) is “A forty (40) hour pre-practicum at the elementary or secondary level is required.” Another change to the Recommended Bulletin text is MOVP 3XX to replace MOVP 313/314. A motion to approve CAR 13-15 as amended is made, and seconded and the vote is: FOR 15, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 0.

Committee takes up CAR 13-16. Liam Harte asks if the changes of program requirements relate to CAR 13-11. Those changes are covered by CAR 13-11, and so the committee doesn’t need to worry about it. John Ohotnicky clarifies that it is a change of prerequisites. Holly Noun and Kate Stanne asks that the prerequisites are changed to MOVP 202 or MOVP 203 from MOVP 105 or MOVP 106. These changes are relevant to CARs 13-16, 13-17, 13-18, and 13-19. Specifically they will all now have the same prerequisites. John Ohotnicky brings up the length of the course titles as being too long to practically label on transcripts, that course titles need to fit in 35 characters or less. Liam Harte brings up that this is like WSU curriculum Twitter (with the added bonus that it has no idiot celebrities on it, see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Axzxe1a78E ) . Liam Harte reigns in stray talk about credits. Kate Stanne talks about credits for student work, slightly disparages the Music Department for not giving students enough credit for their work (Welcome to CC Andy), and she clarifies the credit allotment in the Movement Science Department. Tarin Weiss asks if the Bulletin should say text should say more than just ‘elementary children’ when the title includes secondary level. All mention of ‘elementary’ in the course description should be changed to ‘elementary and secondary’, specifically the first sentence of the Bulletin description now reads “This course provides the student with the pedagogy for and knowledge of selected activities appropriate for elementary and secondary students. The course emphasizes the skill theme approach to teaching which includes locomotor, non-locomotor, manipulatives, body management and specific sports skills, these skills are taught through low organization, games of low organization, lead-up activities to games of higher organization, dance/rhythmic activities, and fitness. The course will consist of lecture in theory and content, as well as practice in a laboratory setting.” A motion to approve CAR 13-16 as remanufactured (i.e. amended) is made and seconded and approved with a vote of: FOR 10, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 1.

Committee takes up CAR 13-17. As per previous discussion, the prerequisites are changed to MOVP 202 and MOVP 203. John Ohotnicky asks if the capitalization of certain words is necessary, and Kate Stanne clarifies that all such capitalizations are because they refer to proper nouns. The change of program box is unchecked, and the change of course prerequisites box is checked. A motion to approve, as amended is made, and seconded, and passed by a vote of: FOR 11, AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 0.

Meeting disintegrates (i.e. adjourns).

And Here it is, your moment of zen: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zce-QT7MGSE