Westfield State University
Curriculum Committee Minutes for Thursday, February 28, 2013
In attendance: Heidi Bohler, Eric Bressler, Megan Kennedy, John Ohotnicky, Carsten Braun, Alexis Wagner, Rebecca DiVico, Marcia Scanlon, Liam Harte, Susanne Chuku, Gabriel Aquino, David Laing, Brian Jennings, (Mike V. guest to speak on 12-13 and Kathy McIntosh re: 12-28) (13 + 2 guests)
Marsha Moratta, Ziblim Abukari, Sunday Fakunmoju, Elizabeth Starr (16-18).

1. Approval of minutes of 2/14/13.
   a. Take Brian Jennings off; was not in attendance.
   b. Moved to approve; 10 approvals; 4 abstentions

2. Update on 11-01.
   a. Not supposed to come to us. Given to us in error
   b. Still looking for 11-03; 10-65 and 10-64 withdrawn

3. Ad-hoc committee report.
   a. Committee provided written Assessment update
   b. No commentary or discussion

4. New Business:13-6 through 13-9; add to folder

5. Unfinished Business:
      b. Mike: Writing using scientific guidelines; came to us from those getting our graduates
      c. Follow-up: John: ¼ of faculty member is understandable, but are we creating a discrepancy for other students? Mike: students take 7-8 or 11 lab sciences, somewhere there has to be flexibility; but at this point we can’t limit ourselves for some of that flexibility. This is specific to how scientists write. John: are we creating 2 different curriculums, are they sooo different from each other? Mike: yes, this is a way of helping 2/3rds...that’s what we will end up getting in here.
      d. Motion to approve and second: approved (12) with 1 abstention
   e. 12-28: Licensure for Teachers of Spanish.
      f. Kathy McIntosh: no major for about 10 years and now we have about 40, so now we are seeking a licensure program.
      g. Eric: 3 credits in another language other that English: want the experience of coming to a language for the first time as they want to be language teachers,
something brand-new, reminds you what it’s like as a student. Resources are limited in the number of languages we are able to offer, so we have not been so stringent; French, Arabic and Chinese. Eric: the wording…someone good in English and had exposure in French, etc., but might not meet first exposure. Kathy: I would be willing to talk to department, but I’m hesitant because of minor and students are limited to one per semester. Megan: If they all do all of this and don’t pass MTEL, they would still have the major…what if it’s reversed? Is there language that stops them from doing this? Kathy: high degree of overlap b/t major and education program…it would be depend on when the student made the decision and how long they have to get the licensure sequence. They would have to go back and take those required courses. That’s a consequence of doing it late. John: EGST 204 is not currently an option in the major, will you be adding…Kathy: Yes…John: 310 is really 311. Double asterisks is only required for middle and secondary?…if I’m only doing secondary, then I don’t need middle school…needs to be clear to students…39 credits is fixed in title now. Megan: Bulletin language…GPA requirements..is that covered? Make sure there are not different requirements on pg. 99 vs. CAR language. John: Are you not deviating from bulletin language? Liam: is there anything you need to go back to the department? Kathy: few things to be corrected, but nothing controversial. Eric: where do you land on language that we discussed earlier? Gabriel reiterated what was discussed and there is not enough room to make it a requirement. Kathy: I don’t see us changing it now, but I will take it back to the department.

h. Motion to approve: John moves to approve as amended, second by Megan (310 is 311)…text to add (regarding minimum GPA for licensure’s. 138 should be duplicated for Spanish…3 paragraphs at the opening of the curriculum to introduce it). Be consistent with title as all other program…”Licensure for Teacher of Spanish” on proposal itself…strike current title on curriculum page.

i. 16 approval, none against and no abstentions (more people came in to meeting)
j. 12-31: BIOL-03xx, Molecular Biology
   k. Eric: based on 3rd comment, sequencing should be removed from last sentence in original. Should be a comma. Brian: I don’t understand technical language, but it sounds extremely specific instead of broad since that might not be able to grow and flex in the years to come. Is it too specific? Gabriel: Is there anyone who knows if this is general? Carsten: it’s called molecular biology “techniques”…maybe those specific areas are techniques? Elizabeth: maybe it should be minimal for different teachers…maybe someone should weigh in. John: I want to ensure lab expectations are meeting University expectations. Direct instruction vs. lab time to understand credits. Liam: invite to next meeting.

l. Table

12-25: History of Education Licensure Requirements

m. Liam: referenced in bulletin on 132

n. Marsha: why not name it what it is? Eric and John agree, since Ethnic and Gender Studies have spent years creating an identity…so no one feels slighted later on…Liam: the following EGST courses count…? John, I would do over kill…one course… one course in… one course in…etc. Megan: EGST…NCATE requirements are trying to be met. John: we need to go back to the department to see if they are okay with that. Liam: Sociology or EGST… John: they have duplicated 102 on their list. Liam: What about the economics justification? Susanne: they can take any econ class or this class to fulfill requirements? John: yes

o. Megan: do we need to be concerned about the language “double dip”…(strike double dip and)...for consistency, should economics be in quotes? Megan: advising checklist and materials…EGST not being lost in that…is there a way to put that into the department and request they evaluate that on their advising. Liam and John: not in our jurisdiction, but we can encourage them to. Eric: going back to line in sociology, after 205 there is a semi colon…not needed. Brian: History 273..HIST should all be capitalized.
p. Table

q. 12-27: History Major Requirements.

r. Elizabeth: seems like they are saying this has a history component. John: if it changes in the future, would it be less of a component. Marsha: how often will they be able to teach it? John: I think they offer it once a year. Susanne: since it is an elective, history majors do need. John: they reference the degree audit system, I can’t code around title, I have to put a note for them to see advisor so it can manually be processed. Susanne: I think it’s tricky when students count on a course that double dips. Liam: would we be asking history to consider offering this to offer under a history or world language to offer it as world language... John: World Languages to offer. Marsha: if they are offering it once a year, it probably should be its own course. John: if the professor changes, it could go out the window, but if we go to world languages, it can be codified and stay regardless of who is teaching it. Gabriel: how can Holocaust not have a history component to it? John: maybe we should encourage departments to discuss it more. Eric: can they articulate the understanding and how sustainable.

s. Motion to table: Table (Do they want to consider world languages to offer it under its own number. Concern: deal with a single faculty member and faculty may not be around forever and the course number is there.)

6. Any Other Business.

a. Liam: Spring Break...next meeting during middle of break...extra meeting after spring break? Insert extra meeting after Spring Bring and continue with regular schedule. See you in three weeks.

7. Adjourn: 5:00…

Did not get to:


c. 12-34: HIST-0276, Latin America to 1800.

d. 12-35: HIST-0277, Latin America since 1800.