Westfield State University
Curriculum Committee Minutes for September 13, 2012

In attendance: Heidi Bohler, Suzanne Chuku, Megan Kennedy, Brian Jennings, Gabriel Aquino, John Ohotnicky, David Laing, Liam Harte, Emily Todd, Eric Bressler, Katie Morrissey, Beth Starr, Marsha Marotta, Sunday Fakunmoju, Ziblim Abukari, Jennifer DiGrazia

Guest: Buzz Hoaglund

I. Meeting convened by Chair Harte at 3:45 with introductions

II. Minutes from 9/4/12 meeting approved with following amendments: Suzanne Chuku did attend; student rep was Stone Khoury; Brian Jennings did not attend; misspelled Gabe Aquino’s last name in minutes

III. Chair’s Report/Remarks:
   a. Distribution of old business: Chair Harte passed out old CARs that need attention
   b. Presentation by Buzz Hoagland for AUC: Buzz explained that AUC was proposing an electronic archive because CARs and information/hard copies of and about documents discussed and acted upon in meetings were often hard to access. He suggested that AUC believed it would increase transparency of governance. AUC wants to create an ad hoc committee to determine how the system would work and be maintained. They hope to begin this fall. Questions asked: How do we alter docs once they are submitted? Who has the ability to make official changes to a collectively-owned website? Who has access to the docs (open source or closed source software)? How do we train users and ensure equal access? Buzz suggested that such concerns could be addressed by the ad hoc committee.

IV. Proposal to repeal By-Laws, Article 6, which creates and sustains/governs subcommittee actions
   a. We had a long discussion about such a repeal. Questions were both practical and theoretical. For example, it was argued that repealing the subcommittees would increase the transparency of the Curr Comm and that such a repeal may ultimately reduce the amount of time it takes to pass CARs because it would enable the Curr Comm to discuss the issue as a full committee once, as opposed to twice. It was also argued that subcommittees serve an important “filtering” function, as they enable subcommittee members to contact Chairs of Departments to ask questions, to deal with much of the minutiae (wording, grammar, punctuation, protocols for CARs) involved with submission of a CAR. Other questions: Can we repeal bylaws? How? Can we repeal and resubmit at a later time?
   b. After discussion, there was a motion that we repeal By-Laws, Article 6. The vote passed with 12 yes, 2 no, 1 abstention, but ultimately failed due to a lack of a 2/3 majority of the Curriculum Committee. We agreed to reintroduce the motion at our next meeting when it was hoped we would
have full committee membership. Thus, Chair Harte waited to assign Curr Comm members to subcommittee until we could revision the issue.