

**CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting  
November 26, 2013**

Present: Jackson, Barak, Bland, Brown, Steele, Van Eyck, Pfatteicher, Gonsiska, Day, Olson, Ferrick, Gislser, Sottile

Absent: Kloppenberg, Skop, Smith, Fritsch

**MINUTES**

- Motion to approve minutes from Oct. 22, 2013: Steele, Olson – passed

**NON-COURSE PROPOSALS**

- Pass/Fail Policy
  - Adjust CALS pass/fail policy to align with campus policy. Seems to be of benefit to students, especially when transferring into CALS from other schools/colleges on campus
  - Motion to approve: Brown, Bland – passed
- CALS International Certificate
  - Very few students have declared it and done it, but the certificate hasn't been advocated much in lieu of the campus-wide Global Health certificate.
  - Since we have had fewer than 5 students in the past 5 years, we are mandated to review the certificate.
  - Perhaps consider how to add international requirements to CALS requirements at large and not just within a certificate.
  - Suspension of admission is not reflective of the lack of importance of international opportunities on behalf of CALS
  - Motion to approve: Steele, Brown
  - Motion to withdraw the above motion: Steele, Brown – passed
  - Discussion will be forwarded to APC
  - Discussion:
    - Strategic plan includes examination of international posture of CALS
    - Global agriculture on the rise, so discontinuation is unfortunate
    - Will be suspended until International Programs report comes back, but perhaps we shouldn't act at all until the report comes back
    - Given student numbers the last 5 years it's hard to see the certificate as valuable, but perhaps the numbers are a reflection of lack of resources instead

**COURSE PROPOSALS**

- BIOCHEM 620
  - Only wish to change cross-listing; it's an administrative restructure
  - Motion to approve: Bland, Barak – passed
- ENTOM 354

- New course. One-week. One credit. Taught by staff from Horticulture and Plant Pathology. There is some overlap with a course in Plant Pathology, but said course doesn't include weed identification. Purpose of class is to prep students for the WI Certified Crop Advisors exam.
- Motion to approve: Barak, Bland – passed
- Discussion:
  - Used to be a special topics course and the course ran really well
  - May be added to the FISC timetable
- ENTOM 711
  - Grad level course; 2 credits; 14 weeks; two-hour class with first hour lecture/discussion and second hour lab. Pre-reqs are STATS 571 and 572
  - Motion to approve: Brown, Barak – passed
  - Discussion:
    - Pass the recommendation along that grading should follow the campus-wide usage of A, AB, B, BC, etc.
- F&W ECOL 660
  - Upper-level elective for students in F&W ECOL. There is climate change content in other courses on campus. Proposer is informed about such content and still believes the course isn't a duplicate of other courses.
  - Motion to send proposal back to proposer. Proposer should provide an explanation of how course content is significantly different from others on campus and share proposal with other relevant departments and seeks their supplemental approvals: Bland, Brown – passed
  - Discussion:
    - Should perhaps continue to require and include letters of support as part of the proposal
- HORT 370
  - Change in L&S attributes. Would like it to be designated as I/A. Change will go into effect next Fall.
  - Motion to support the request to ask for change in L&S attributes: Van Eyck, Barak – passed
  - Discussion:
    - Provide friendly feedback that there is not a grading scale provided in the syllabus
- GEOG 439
  - New course. Cross-listed with Nelson Institute. Some overlap with FW&E 515, but is offered in a different semester. Also, GEOG 439 will use primary sources, while FEW 515 uses secondary sources. Also has some overlap with URB PL 449, but is offered in a different semester.
  - Motion to rely upon the input of interested CALS departments (CES, F&W ECOL, URB PL) for this proposal: Van Eyck, Bland – passed

- Discussion:
  - CALS is only supplemental approval on this proposal
  - Does “using different sources” and offering a course during a different semester address whether or not the content overlaps with other courses on campus?
- Molecular & Environmental Tox 606
  - Has been taught by faculty in SOILS for years. Bolstered course description. Now requires one semester of Biology prior to taking course. Seeking L&S designation. Expect class to play role in ENV SCI major in the future. Class will meet 10 times.
  - Motion to support the proposed changes: Bland, Olson – passed

#### **AUTOMATIC CONSENT**

- NEURODPT 699
  - Independent study course

#### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

- Agronomy department changes are coming, especially with respect with undergraduate courses taken by graduate students. Will CALS Curriculum Committee be involved in this?
  - Discussion:
    - It is part of the accreditation review for graduate programs.
    - Yes, committee will be involved, but no timeline for how it will work out yet
- Dean Kate has appointed someone to collect all feedback on capacity metrics discussions from various committees. Seems to be more urgent that the committee makes progress on this soon. Plan is to circulate Kristi’s “undergraduate experience project” with committee prior to next meeting.
- Accountability-based budgeting is coming. Assumption is that there will be a bleak picture for CALS. Can we assume what metrics will be used?
  - Discussion:
    - Perhaps that’s the point of the charge in capacity metrics this year – to get ahead of the discussion and to avoid metrics being imposed on us; instead help craft some of the metrics
    - Kristi to research how other institutions address(ed) their capacity

Meeting adjourned 1:25pm