Diversity Curriculum Review Committee (DCRC)  
of the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee  

Minutes  

Thursday, January 19, 2016, 3:00 -4:30 p.m.  
Waterman 427A  

Present: Katharine Anderson (RSENR), Alec Ewald (CAS), Evan Eyler (COM), Holly Busier (CESS; HCOL designated representative), Thomas Macias (CAS; Provost appointed) Joanne Pencak (GSB), Tao Sun (CALS), Amani Whitfield (CAS).

Casting votes in absentia: Jackie Weinstock (CESS; CAC Chair’s Designate), Sue Kasser (CNHS), and Jonathan Sands (CEMS).

Absent: Shana Haines (CESS)

Guests: Wanda Heading Grant, Brian Reed

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

I. Review of minutes of the December 15, 2016 meeting. The minutes of December 15, 2016 approved as written.

II. Review of course proposals

1. BSAD 196 (Special Topics: Contemporary Chinese Economy and Business – Furst, instructor), for the D2 designation.  
   The instructor will withdraw this proposal from consideration, and there is no need for the committee to vote.

2. NFS 063 (Obesity: What, Why, and What to Do – Harvey, instructor), for the D2 designation. (Resubmission, with revised syllabus.)
This proposal was revised and resubmitted to the DCRC for D2 designation. Alec Ewald moved to approve the course; motion seconded. After committee discussion, the course was approved for D2 designation.

**Approve: 9  Oppose: 3  Abstain: 0**

3. REL 128 (Religion in America – Andrus, instructor), for the D1 designation.

Tao Sun moved to approve the course; motion seconded. Discussion: if the course is to be designated D1, perhaps its title should be changed to some version of “Race and Religion in America.” This would better convey the diversity-related course content, and the Committee is also concerned that course content might change, in a course with the generic “Religion in America” title. Course goals should also more explicitly emphasize diversity-related objectives. Motion amended to approve the course pending these changes.

**Approve: 10  Oppose: 2  Abstain: 0**

III. **Process for assessing existing D1 courses.** Chair plans to bring some proposed text for survey material to the next meeting. Once the Committee approves the text, we can move forward with the process. Tiera Porter offers to help with designing LimeSurvey document.

IV. **New Business**

**Voting in absentia on course proposals.**

The committee discussed submission of votes on course proposals via e-mail. Members occasionally use this method to fulfill Committee obligations when they are unable to attend a meeting. Motion made and seconded to prohibit voting in absentia on course proposals. Discussion emphasizes the importance of conversation, hearing differing viewpoints, and receiving new information, sometimes leading members to change their responses to course proposals. At the same time, the input of absent members is valuable and appreciated. Group concludes that the comments and considerations of non-attending members should be read during committee discussions, but votes not counted.

**Approve: 7  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0**

The meeting adjourned at 3:53pm. The next meeting of the DCRC is scheduled for February 16, 2017.