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

Minutes

Thursday, September 28, 2017, 3:00 – 4:30 pm  
Waterman 427A

Present: Pablo Bose (CAS), Holly Busier (HCOL), Evan Eyler (LOM), Shana Haines (CESS), Sue Kasser (CNHS, CAC), Thomas Macias (CAS), Joanne Pencak (GSB), Jonathan Sands (CEMS), Scott Schaffer (LIB), Tao Sun (CALS).

Absent: Jarlath O’Neil Dunne (RSENR), Amani Whitfield (CAS).

Guests: Brian Reed, Katie Shepherd, Alexander Yin.

I. Approval of minutes from the May 18, 2017 meeting. The minutes of the May 18, 2017 SCRC meeting were approved with the addition of Evan Eyler added to the attendance list.

II. Introduction and welcome for new Committee members. Pablo Bose will be the chair of the DCRC for the 2017/2018 academic year. New members include Scott Schaffer and Jarlath O’Neil Dunne.

III. Transfer Credit Approvals Sub-Committee. The subcommittee that worked on these over the summer was made up of Pablo Bose, Thomas Macias and Sue Kasser. There were 8 requests, three were approved for D2 and one was approved for D1. Out of the 4 that were not approved for D1, two of them could be approved for D2.

IV. Looking ahead to 2017-2018
   a. Meeting Schedule. Currently the meeting pattern is the 3rd Thursday of the month from 3:00-4:30pm unless there is a university conflict.
b. **Review of the 2016-2017 report. SKIPPED**

c. **Student Representation on DCRC.** The committee discussed the addition of student representation on the committee. Faculty Senate Committees generally have a representative from both the GSS and the SGA. Pablo will have a discussion with interested students and offer an invitation to an upcoming meeting as a guest. The committee will decide on student representation at a future meeting.

d. **Working with the Diversity Requirement Assessment Committee.** The work that the committee did last year included data collection and trends. They also worked with focus groups through CTL. They are currently working on an executive summary that outlines the information they gathered last year. This should be ready next month.

They are looking at a more direct assessment of student outcomes this year. They are modeling this effort after FWIL. They are recruiting 5-8 faculty members to participate in this study.

Members of the committee are:

Lacretia Flash (Human Resources, President's Office)
Matt Kolan (RSNR)
Abby McGowan (CAS)
Cathy Paris (Faculty Senate)
Marie Vea-Fagnant (RSNR)
Cynthia Reyes (co-chair), CESS
Katie Shepherd (co-chair), CESS
Consulting member: Alex Yin, OIR

e. Working with General Education Curriculum Coordinating Committee. At this time the General Education Curriculum Coordinating Committee is an ad hoc committee of the Faculty Senate. The committee is made up of the chairs of each of the General Education committees (QR, FWIL, DCRC, SCRC), CAC Chair, Cathy Paris and Brian Reed. Sharon Haas is working on a General Education website, the target is to get up and going by mid to late October.

UVM General Education Coordinating Committee

The Mission and Purpose of UVM’s General Education Curriculum

The General Education Program reflects the faculty’s aspirations for all UVM undergraduates. General Education is the foundation of a transformative educational experience that prepares students to become accountable leaders who bring to their work dedication to the global community, a grasp of complexity, effective problem-solving and communication skills, and an enduring commitment to learning and ethical conduct. General Education courses transcend disciplinary boundaries; they help students develop integrated competencies that are essential to lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.

Committee Description

The UVM General Education Coordinating Committee (GECC) is a joint committee of the University of Vermont Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost. Its purpose is to coordinate the activities, policies, and processes of the individual General Education Committees (currently Diversity, First-Year Writing and Information Literacy, Quantitative Reasoning, and Sustainability), bringing to the delivery of the General Education curriculum increased clarity, consistency, and efficiency. Following the formal establishment of the GECC, the individual General Education Curriculum Committees will no longer be standing subcommittees of the Senate Curricular Affairs Committee, but rather will report directly to the GECC, to which they will be responsible.

Structure

GECC membership includes the chairs/co-chairs of the individual General Education Curriculum Committees, the Associate Provost for Teaching and Learning, and the Faculty Senate President. The committee chair will be appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate.

Various other faculty members and University officers with particular expertise will from time to time be asked to meet with the GECC. Examples include the Registrar, the Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Chair of the Senate Curricular Affairs Committee, the
Provost’s Faculty Fellow for Assessment, and the Assistant Provost.

Functions

The first priority of the GECC is to work out the individual General Education Curriculum Committees’ policies and processes and bring them into alignment with one another. Other functions include:

- establishing and maintaining a visible, informative, and compelling web presence for the General Education curriculum
- developing operating procedures for new General Education requirements
- participating in the development of a plan for ongoing, regular assessment of the General Education Program and its identified student learning outcomes
- developing a plan for insuring portability of General Education courses among academic units
- advocating for the role of General Education in the academic life of the University
- determining the resources necessary for the oversight and coordination of, and communication about the UVM General Education Program and making recommendations to ensure adequate funding.

Meeting Schedule

The committee will typically meet on a monthly basis during the academic year, but the meetings may be more or less frequent as deemed necessary for the business at hand.

This will be presented and voted on at the October Faculty Senate meeting.

V. Courses for Approval

a. Critical Race 095
   Jonathan Sands motioned to approve the proposal, Susan Kasser seconded the motion.

   Approve: 9  Oppose 0  Abstain 1

   Critical Race 095 is approved.

b. CSD 025
   Susan Kasser motioned to approve the proposal, Scott Shaffer seconded the motion.
Approve: 10  Oppose 0  Abstain 0

CSD 025 is approved.

c.  **ENG 163**
Thomas Macias motioned to approve the proposal, Evan Eyler seconded the motion.

Approve: 9  Oppose 0  Abstain 0

Eng. 163 is approved.

d.  **Religion 96**
Thomas Macias motioned to approve the proposal, Susan Kasser seconded the motion.

Approve: 8  Oppose 0  Abstain 1

Religion 96 is approved.

**VI. Other Business:** There are concerns among students on campus around diversity. Pablo has been in touch with these students and is hoping to help with some of their concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.