



*Arts & Science Senate
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee*

To: Arts and Sciences Senate
From: Edmund Chang, Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Re: 2009-2010 Annual Report
Date: September, 2010

I. General Information

On behalf of the CC, I am pleased to submit our annual report for the last academic year, 2009-2010. As this report makes clear, we had an extremely busy year. Note that the committee usually meets 23-24 times per Academic Year, however, during the 2009-2010 academic year the committee met 25 times, reflecting an increase in agenda for the committee.

The report includes excerpts from the meeting minutes that discuss issues submitted to the Committee. As Chair of the CC in AY 2009-2010, I would be happy to meet with the Executive Committee and/or the Senate to discuss the Committee's concerns.

The curriculum committee met twenty-five times during the 2009-2010 academic year. Committee members were: Edmund Chang (School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences and Chair of the committee), Darcy Lonsdale (School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences), Valeri Lantz-Gefroh (Theatre Arts), Darlene Prowse (Asian and Asian American Studies), Nicole Sampson (College of Arts and Sciences), Kane Gillespie (College of Arts and Sciences), Sarah Sternglanz (Women's Studies), Arlene Feldman (Transfer Office, ex officio member), Kevin Caffrey (Registrar's Office, ex officio member), and Elizabeth Squire (College of Arts and Science Dean's Office, ex officio member), and Martin Levine (Art). Ridha Kamoua attended as an ex-officio representative from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Student representative Christopher Young (graduate) attended as his schedule permitted.

Routine matters are handled by the secretary and announced to the committee at each meeting. There were a number of routine matters chiefly involving deletion of courses and changes of course titles, descriptions, course combinations and/or prerequisites to bring them in line with current teaching practices

The Committee worked to publish two updated online versions of the 2010 Bulletin (Spring 2010 and Fall 2010 editions). The secretary also serves as the editor of the Bulletin.

II. General Curricular Matters

The committee welcomed guests Graham Glynn and Patricia Aceves from Teaching Learning +Technology.

Graham made some suggestions regarding the committee forms:

- Create a course goals section (learning objectives) for the syllabus in addition to a course objectives section
- To improve learning objectives for the DEC, show on the syllabus which learning objectives help satisfy the requirements for the course DEC category. If the syllabus is made into a Share Point form, faculty could check off specific areas that satisfy DEC categories.
- TLT would like to know when new courses are being approved that require computer use in the classroom, so that TLT may meet with the faculty to discuss specific computer/software needs. Likewise, the committee requests that TLT refer any faculty member discussing a new course with TLT to the appropriate curriculum committee (either CAS or CTPC for undergraduate courses).

Graham pointed out that at the recent faculty/staff/student retreat, an issue of concern was students not having access to course syllabi. He recommended that faculty publish course syllabi online before pre-registration so that students are aware of the content of the course. CC members pointed out that many faculty members do not have a completed syllabus ready before pre-registration. Graham suggested an approved general syllabus as a fixed document, and assigned faculty could edit sections of the document. Graham suggested using Share Point for this form-based process so that faculty would be able to edit designated text, and change dynamic parts of the syllabus. Ideally faculty would change the course objectives based on feedback from students in the first class meeting. CC members pointed out that DUGs may object to having an additional task of approving and making syllabi changes for the department. The committee pointed out that it may be beyond the scope of the committee's work to force faculty to do this, though we may begin with new and revised courses that are presented before the committee. This could be a University Senate issue if all faculty are asked to put a syllabus online for each course. An edict from the Dean may help if faculty are asked to make this change. The committee discussed this change, and Graham suggested that a good starting point might be programmatic review, starting with the learning objectives for the program, followed by course review.

Graham and Patricia also touched upon online instruction. Faculty may meet with experts in the Faculty Center to develop online courses and online teaching strategies, or to create blended courses. The 2008 Higher Education Reauthorization Act distinguishes between online and correspondence courses. Online courses must be interactive and robust; students will not receive financial aid for correspondence courses. The Reauthorization Act tries to classify the different types of course offerings so that appropriate resources may be allocated.

Southampton

On May 3, 2010, the committee met with guest Martin Schoonen, former Dean of Stony Brook Southampton, to discuss the future plans for the students on the campus, and Southampton degree offerings. Upon the suspension of resident majors at Southampton, Schoonen created a list of equivalencies between the requirements of the five Southampton majors and Stony Brook campus course offerings, for the purpose of allowing Southampton students to substitute courses for their existing declared major. Southampton students were also given advance registration for the Fall semester. Some courses have direct equivalences on West campus, while some courses are unique to Southampton.

There are five majors specific to Stony Brook Southampton (Sustainability Studies, Environmental Humanities, Coastal Environmental Studies, Ecosystems and Human Impact, and Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning). Of utmost concern is the fewer than 100 students enrolled in these degree programs and how they will be best served on the Stony Brook campus. The main question is whether we will maintain these programs into the future, or simply allow the continuing students to graduate. Maintaining the programs would involve rewriting the majors to take advantage of courses and faculty from the main campus. The Provost has convened a committee (Martin Schoonen is the chair) to discuss these issues.

The four tenure track faculty members from the Southampton campus will be moved to positions on West campus. It is unclear whether incoming freshmen will be allowed to declare these majors. Current Dean of Southampton, Mary Pearl, has been named Director of Sustainability programs on West campus.

The five GIS courses might be considered for development into a minor on the main campus. A committee has been formed on the Stony Brook campus to discuss the possibility of a GIS minor, and by which department or unit such a minor would be administered.

Rumors have surfaced that the GIS might move to CEAS, but Schoonen and the Committee agree that such a minor belongs under the aegis of arts and sciences rather than engineering. In particular, since the Southampton majors and minors are still within the purview of the Arts and Sciences Senate, so should the GIS programs when proposed.

The committee approved fifty-six new courses during the 2009-2010 AY, along with a new interdisciplinary major in Early Civilizations, and the Turkana Basin Institute, a study abroad program made up of five new courses from the Anthropology and Geosciences departments.

III. Significant Curricular Changes by Department or Program

Africana Studies (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- AFH/FRN 423-J Africana Literature in French

Anthropology (6 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- ANP 121 Biological Anthropology Laboratory (previously offered as the lab component of ANP 120)
- ANP 201-E Human Evolution
- ANP 305 Vertebrate Paleontology of the Turkana Basin
- ANP 304 Modern and Ancient Environments of Eastern Africa
- ANP 306 Paleoanthropological Discoveries of the Turkana Basin
- ANP 307 Archaeology of the Turkana Basin

The request to change “Physical Anthropology” to “Biological Anthropology” in ANP 340, 391, 403, 447, 487, and 488, and change the description of the course subject designator name for ANP to “Biological Anthropology” was approved.

The committee is pleased to approve changes to the Anthropology major, as well as the credit reduction and lab removal of ANP 120.

Art

The following prerequisite change was approved:

ARH 324-G Prerequisite change

old: Prerequisites: ARH 101 and 102, Advisory prerequisite: ARH 205

new: Prerequisites: ARH 102

The combined degree proposal for a BA/MA in Art History and Criticism was approved.

The following change to the major residency requirement was approved:

Art Department Residency Requirements

Studio Art Transfer students must take at least 18 upper division ARS credits for the major at Stony Brook.

Art History Transfer students must take at least 12 upper division ARH credits for the major at Stony Brook.

Asian and Asian American Studies (8 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- AAS 215-D Classical Performing Arts of India
- AAS 232-G Introduction to Asian American Fiction and Film
- AAS/RLS 368 Yoga: Theory and Praxis
- JPN 426 Structure of Japanese
- CHI 101-Skill 3 Intensive Elementary Chinese
- KOR 101-Skill 3 Intensive Elementary Korean
- HIN 101-Skill 3 Intensive Elementary Hindi
- JPN 101-Skill 3 Intensive Elementary Japanese

The following changes were approved:

add skill 3 to CHI 311, CHI 312, HIN 312, KOR 312

Undergraduate Biology

The following requirement change was approved:

Current Requirement

Two Upper Division Biology Lab courses.

Approved New Requirement

Either two Upper Division Lab courses or one Upper Division Lab course plus two semesters

Proposals to offer BIO 317 and BIO 344 courses online were approved.

Biochemistry residency requirement: Approved. The Bulletin will reflect the language as stated in the memo from Haltiwanger on 2/16/10: Transfer students who wish to complete the requirements for the Biochemistry major must take Biochemistry I and II (BIO 361 and 362) and must complete at least a minimum of nine additional credits at Stony Brook in required upper-division Biology courses (BIO 310, 320, 311, or 365) and/or approved upper-division Biology elective courses.

Chemistry (2 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- CHE 358 Scientific Computing
- CHE 386 Professional Skills

The following credit change was approved: CHE 130: Credit change from 0 to 1 credit.

Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies (3 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- CCS 204-D The Stony Brook Film Festival: Films and Contexts
- CCS 476 Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II
- CLL/WST 315-I Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature
- CLT/PHI 371-G Literature and Justice

Dance

Approved: Request for variable hours (1-3) for DAN 353: Special Topics in Dance Performance. This will allow Dance to offer 1-credit hour courses for Winter and Summer Sessions. Note that all students must take the course for the same number of credits each semester. The minor requires DAN 353. Students must take the 3-credit version of the course to satisfy the minor.

English (6 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- EGL 207 The English Language
- EGL 301 Authors, Periods, Topics, or Genres, with intensive writing
- EGL 491 Honors Seminar: British Literature before 1800
- EGL 492 Honors Seminar: American Literature
- EGL 494 Honors Practicum for Research Assistants
- EGL 495 Honors Practicum for Writing Assistants

European Languages (3 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- FRN 313 French Vocabulary through popular culture
- AFH/FRN 423-J Africana Literature in French
- GRK 101-Skill 3 Intensive Modern Greek

Geosciences (5 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- GEO 105-E Energy Resources for the 21st Century
- GEO 303 Geology of the Turkana Basin
- GEO 312/GEO 512 Structure and Properties of Materials
- GEO 313-H Understanding Water Resources for the 21st Century
- GEO 448 Geosciences Colloquium

The following prerequisite change was approved:

GEO 304 Energy, Mineral Resources, and the Environment

Prerequisite change

from Prerequisite: GEO 101 or 102 or 122

Advisory Prerequisite: CHE 123 or high school chemistry

to Prerequisite: One DEC E course

History (9 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- HIS 105-F The Ancient World
- HIS 201-J The Ancient Near East
- HIS 204-J Egypt of the Pharaohs
- HIS 319-J Assyrians, Babylonians and Hittites
- HIS 324-J Lost Languages, Ancient Civilizations, and Decipherments
- HIS 347-J South Asia before Colonialism
- HIS 348-J Colonial South Asia
- HIS 353-J Postwar Japan
- HIS 381-J Latin America and World Commodities (1500-2000)

The following course changes were approved:

HIS 347 South Asia before Colonialism – permanent crosslist with AAS 347

HIS 348 Colonial South Asia – permanent crosslist with AAS 348

International Academic Programs (5 new courses)

Approved: FSY 302 SUNY Foreign Study credit change to 0-19 credits

The proposal for the Turkana Basin Institute proposal, and corresponding courses were approved:

- ANP 305 Vertebrate Paleontology of the Turkana Basin
- ANP 304 Modern and Ancient Environments of Eastern Africa
- ANP 306 Paleoanthropological Discoveries of the Turkana Basin
- ANP 307 Archaeology of the Turkana Basin

- GEO 303 Geology of the Turkana Basin

Journalism (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- JRN 381 Advanced Digital Storytelling

Linguistics

The committee was pleased to approve the changes to the Linguistics major and course prerequisites as proposed, effective Fall 2010.

Summary: addition of LIN 101 to the major/minor requirements; re-working of LIN 344 and tweaking several prerequisites. Overall credits for the major and minor remain unchanged.

Mathematics (2 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- MAT 307 Multivariable Calculus with Linear Algebra
- MAT 308 Differential Equations with Linear Algebra

Music

MUS 388 Accompanying was reactivated.

Philosophy (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- CLT/PHI 371-G Literature and Justice

Approved: PHI 390 credit change to variable 1-3 credits to offer as 1 credit during summer.

Physics and Astronomy (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- PHY 100 Physics Head Start

The proposal to renumber PHY 274 to PHY 307 was approved.

Psychology (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- PSY 383 Behavioral Psychology Laboratory

The proposal to suspend and deactivate the CFS minor as of May 2011 was regrettably approved.

The proposal to update CFS courses to the PSY designator was approved:

-update CFS 283 to PSY 285, and update description and prerequisites
-inactivate CFS 284

-update CFS 381 to PSY 385, and update description and prerequisites
-inactivate CFS 382

Religious Studies (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- AAS/RLS 368 Yoga: Theory and Praxis

School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Marine Sciences

The request to change the title of MAR 315-H: Title Conservation Biology and Marine Biodiversity to Marine Conservation was approved

Spanish

The following change was approved:
add skill 3 to SPN 312

Stony Brook Southampton (1 new course)

The following course was approved for offering at Stony Brook Southampton:

- SBC 313 GIS Design and Application

The request to change SBC designator from “Southampton Block Curriculum” to “Sustainability Block Curriculum” to avoid confusion when SBC courses are offered on a campus other than Southampton was approved.

The committee spent part of one and the majority of two 90-minute meetings discussing Southampton curriculum proposals. The majority of time was spent discussing the proposed Creative Writing minor, and the committee began discussion on the GIS courses.

Creative Writing minor

The committee is impressed with the thorough course proposals and overall content and vision of the Creative Writing minor. However, the Committee has concerns about the minor as currently proposed, and, primarily because of other pending committee agenda items, does not foresee being able to approve the minor in time for it to be entered into the Fall 2010 bulletin or before the Fall 2010 enrollment cycle. The committee encourages the department to respond to the committee comments, with the intent that the courses for the minor could be reviewed (and likely approved) after April 5, 2010. The committee anticipates that the minor could be available for students to enroll beginning 2011. See minutes from meetings of Feb 8, 15 and 22, 2010 for detailed discussion of the minor.

The committee began discussion of the proposed/revised GIS courses. Faculty from the main campus raised several objections to the GIS courses proposed by the Southampton campus. Until these issues are resolved, the approved GIS 313 will revert to the former designator, SBC 313.

1. concern among faculty that GIS is currently being taught by other departments. Therefore a need to collaborate to design the possible courses and possible programs to provide the best outcome for all interested parties.
2. concern that the content of the proposed GIS courses (grad and undergrad) are not of the same quantity as existing courses. That is, a concern that the workload is not enough to warrant the number of proposed credits.
3. concern that teaching GIS courses is not very well suited to an online format.
4. concern that the courses are being proposed by faculty and staff who would eventually not be teaching the courses. That is, a concern about who will teach the courses.

SBC 313 GIS Design and Application: Updated prerequisite:

The course is conditionally approved for offering in the traditional classroom, however, the committee requests clarification before approving the online version of the course.

Coastal Environmental Science

Changes to the COS major were approved: remove the requirement for MAT 127/132; add a requirement for CHE 132; replace the SBC 313 requirement with GIS 313.

Approved: ENV 315: Prerequisite change from ‘MAT 127 or 132, ENS 119, and SBC 113/114’ to ‘MAT 126 or MAT 131; SBC 113 and SBC 114’

Theatre Arts (2 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- THR 308 Prevention Through the Arts

- THR 309 Prevention Through the Arts II

The proposal for a combined THR BA/MA was approved.

Undergraduate Academic Affairs/University Scholars (4 new courses)

The following courses were approved:

- ADV 101 Advising 101
- ADV 488 Academic Peer Advisor Internship
- UGC 475 Undergrad College Teaching Practicum
- UGC 488 Undergraduate College Internship

Women's Studies (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- CLL/WST 315-I Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature

Writing (1 new course)

The following course was approved:

- WRT 303 The Personal Essay

The addition of DEC G to WRT 302 Critical Writing Seminar: Special Topics was approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kane Gillespie