SENATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
Monday 28 March 2022
1:01-2:15 pm via Zoom

Attendees

Senators
P. Englezos
S. Gopalakrishnan
C. Jaeger
R. Kozak
C. Krebs (Chair)
S. Matsui
C. Menzies
J. Schumacher
S. Singh
J. Stewart
G. Yee (Vice-Chair)

Ex Officio
S. Bates
J. Hoegg
C. Holmes
N. Hutchinson
E. Jovel
S. Parker
D. Parkes
M. Quayle
C. Rawn
A. Webb
E. Whitney
Z. Xu

Regrets
E. Cantiller
P. Culbert
A. Dulay
D. Goyal
S. Jarvis-Selinger
S. Kandola
H. Leong
B. Menard
K. Ross
L. Stothers

Guests
J. Fletcher
M. Vento
S. Burk

Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement
The meeting of the Senate Curriculum Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 1:01 pm on 28 March 2022 by C. Krebs, Chair.

Guest – Michael Vento
Michael Vento is a student reporter with The Ubyssey. M. Vento noted that he has an interest in the Senate which led him to attending today’s meeting as a guest observer.

Agenda
THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee adopts the 28 March 2022 agenda, as presented.

Carried by general consent.

Meeting Minutes
THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the 28 February 2022 meeting minutes, as presented.

Carried by general consent.
The Chair thanked student senators for their contributions. Additional thanks were noted for J. Schumacher co-chairing the Arts Subcommittee and for G. Yee being Vice-Chair of the SCC.

J. Iverson circulated the contact details for all Faculty Curriculum Chairs to that group in order to facilitate communication at the faculty-level. It was noted that the Office of the Senate is always open to review processes for improvement.

J. Schumacher presented:

Revised Program: Program Requirements > Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies (Major, Honours and Minor).

THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the revised program, as circulated.

Moved: J. Schumacher
Seconded: C. Rawn
Carried.

This proposal is a result of the ongoing revamp of the Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies (Major, Honours and Minor) programs. It aligns with the recently approved name and course code changes. Updating the degree requirements, as well as removing some of the streams, allows for increased flexibility for students.

Revised Program: Breadth Requirements > Bachelor of Arts

Guest: Stefania Burk, Associate Dean, Academic, Faculty of Arts

THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the revised program, as circulated.

Moved: J. Schumacher
Seconded: C. Rawn
Carried.

The updating of the Breadth Requirements was done in consultation with a variety of stakeholders, as outlined in the Executive Summary. It was noted that the requirements had not been reviewed for approximately the past 60 years. If approved, this proposal will not be implemented until 2024. This will allow time to refine criteria as well as to communicate the update across B.C. high schools and through other channels of recruitment.

A committee member noted that the current program seems to bundle math, physics, chemistry and biology into one group, whereas in the new program it appears that students are to take courses exclusively in one subject area resulting in less exposure to subjects. In response S. Burk noted that topic was
previously discussed. In those conversations it was decided that the packaging has to make sense to students. All disciplinary lines were reviewed and it was agreed that the division of subject areas addresses those concerns as best as possible. It is hoped that the degree requirements will be regularly reviewed and reassessed resulting in students being driven to obtain their credits in a specific way instead of through box ticking.

A committee member asked whether students in the existing program will be allowed to finish their degree through the current program requirements. In response, it was confirmed that current students would have the choice to either complete their degree using the current program requirements or to opt into the new program as outlined in UBC’S Campus-wide Policies and Regulations which states:

"Unless a student takes an extraordinary number of years to complete prescribed studies, the student is usually given the option of meeting requirements in effect when first enrolled or of meeting revised requirements subsequently approved by Senate."

New Certificate: Climate Studies and Action

THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the new certificate, as circulated.

Moved: J. Schumacher  
Seconded: D. Parkes

This certificate will consist of 18 credits, allowing students to get a basis in climate science and action, and community organizing, culminating in a capstone project.

A committee member suggested that as the certificate progresses, proponents could incorporate a course in clean energy or something similar.

Another committee member noted that by using the title Climate Studies and Action, it is to the exclusion of others given how narrow the focus currently seems to be. In response, it was noted that the courses included in this certificate fall under deliberately chosen subject areas. It was further noted that although the title does claim a space, that it is not particularly unusual to do that such as with the Bachelor of Media Studies claiming a space.

A committee member noted a lack of Indigenous content, especially considering traditional ecological knowledge and connections to the ISP. In response, it was noted the leaders of the working group that prepared this proposal have worked through the ISP self-study and are continuing to build partnerships. Indigenous ways of knowing are part of the courses in the certificate. The proponents did not want to risk overclaiming until they had the position right.
A committee member asked whether an additional paragraph should be included in the proposal that explicitly addresses Indigenous curriculum and partnerships, as well as unpacking Indigenous worldviews as a crosscutting theme.

A committee member noted that certificate programs sometimes have a different registration process that can impact library services. It was asked whether this program is intended to be an intake of people who are not already UBC students. In response it was noted that this program is for current UBC students.

**The motion to approve this certificate was tabled by J. Schumacher.**

The proposal will be revised to elaborate on its connections to the ISP and the related content discussed by the Committee. It is expected that the proposal will be brought back at the 25 April 2022 SCC meeting.

New Courses: AMNE 200, AMNE 300, AMNE 320, AMNE 340, AMNE 360, AMNE 370, GEOG 402, HIST 279, HIST 397, JRNL 440, POLI 395

**THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the new courses, as circulated.**

Moved: J. Schumacher  
Seconded: S. Gopalakrishnan  
Carried.

**Subcommittee Reports – Graduate**

N. Hutchinson presented:

New Courses: EDST 534, EDST 558, FRE 531, FRE 601, FRE 602, JRNL 540, LWS 525

**THAT THE Senate Curriculum Committee approves the new courses, as circulated.**

Moved: N. Hutchinson  
Seconded: J. Hoegg  
Carried.

**Discussions - Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP) - Sharing Experiences with Implementing ISP in Curriculum (Cont’d)**

A committee member asked whether proponents can be asked for more specific statements relating to the Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP). In response it was noted that the SCC has been asking for more specific connections to the ISP. It was noted that this would allow proponents the opportunity to show authenticity and thorough engagement rather than surface gesturing.
**Other Business**

It was noted that the Committee has not required any Wednesday meetings in the last two years. For the 2022/23 committee meeting cycle, only two Wednesday meetings will be scheduled, corresponding to the two Academic Calendar releases.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday 25 April 2022 from 1-3 pm.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.