**HSS Curriculum Committee (HSSCC)**

**Minutes 23 February 2016**

**Location: SO 3020**

**Minutes Taker: Katarina Gephardt**

**In attendance:**

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| [x]  Katarina Gephardt (ENGL) | [x]  Christopher Randall (PSYC) | [ ]  Matt Mitchelson (GEOG/ANTH) |
| [x]  Kim Haimes-Korn (DWMA) | [x]  Chris Pallas (POLS/IA) –  | [x]  Ryan Ronnenberg (HIST) |
| [x]  Pauline Howes (COMM) |  | [x]  Linda Treiber (SOC/CJ), Chair |
| [x]  Chien-pin Li (Dean’s Office) | [x]  Federica Santini (FL) | [x]  Griselda Thomas (ISD) |

Also in attendance as presenters/guests: Dean Dorff, Susan Rouse (History and Philosophy), Rebecca Hill (ISD), Alice Pate (Chair, History and Philosophy), Carolyn Carlson (Communication), Tom Pynn (ISD)

**Conversation with: Robin Doff, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSSCC MEMBERS ONLY)**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Treiber at 12:33

Dean Dorff explained the context for his decision to approve the CDD Program proposals following the negative CHSS Curriculum Committee vote. He pointed out that even though the program proposal may not be perfect, the program represented an opportunity for the College. He provided the context for the consolidation process that led to his decision.

There was some discussion on whether Robert’s rules of order apply to the CHSS Curriculum committee process, especially in the case of tie votes. Dean Dorff emphasized that he was not trying to question the committee’s vote or influence its policies.

**Approval of Minutes from 16 February 2016 Meeting.**

**The minutes were approved.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Interdisciplinary Studies Department:

* American Studies, M.A.

AMST - 7901 - Capstone Literature Review and Proposal (New Course) second reading completed –

AMST - 7902 - Capstone Experience (Change in Existing Course) second reading completed- Still need degree change in program proposal.

Program change form that was missing in the last meeting has been provided. Chris Randall asked for clarification regarding capstone hours (minimum of 6 hours). Motion to approve on first reading was approved by majority vote. Motion to waive second reading. Motion was approved by 8, 1 abstained.

* Peace Studies Minor (Change to Program Name, Requirements or Policies) (first reading continued)

PAX - 3300 - Peace and the Environment (New Course) (second reading)

PAX - 3500 - Theories of Peace (New Course) (second reading)

PAX - 4000 - Peacebuilding Methods (New Course) (second reading)

PAX - 4499 - Seminar in Peace Studies (Change in Existing Course) (second reading)

Linda Treiber said that the committee did not have an agreement on the Theories of Peace course at the previous meeting. Ryan Ronnenberg said that it would helpful to look at syllabi for the courses in question (Peace Studies and Philosophy Courses). Dr. Ronnenberg pointed out that the theme in the course taught during Fall 2011 included readings by activists (Phil 3120), and the course did not appear inherently interdisciplinary. The course then became a foundational course in Peace Studies. The Fall 2015 version taught by Dr. Soldatenko was interdisciplinary, containing reading assignments from different disciplines. Ryan Ronnenberg said that it was difficult to conceive of a course that was more interdisciplinary. The parallels between the PHIL and PAX versions of the course do not warrant the creation of a new course. Dr. Ronnenberg pointed out that the course taught as a PHIL course may be more interdisciplinary than the PAX course. PAX minor was proposed as a meeting place for different disciplines in which Philosophy would be a key component. Half of the students taking the PAX course were Philosophy majors. According to Dr. Ronnenberg, the change in Prefix does not seem pedagogically necessary. Linda Treiber’s understanding was that Philosophy needed to be included in the discussion of the proposal. Ryan Ronnenberg suggested that changing all of the prefixes in an interdisciplinary program can lead to homogeneity instead of the program serving as the meeting place for disciplines. Rebecca Hill clarified what qualifies as interdisciplinary from the SACS perspective. There was a problem with Departments not allowing ISD faculty to teach courses with disciplinary prefixes. Susan Rouse said that the course proposal form indicated that there was no impact on other Departments, but Philosophy representatives were not consulted. Chris Pallas suggested that the committee set aside questions of what motivates faculty and focus on the substance of the proposal. The impact on Philosophy could be losing students to ISD.

Tom Pynn asked that the committee consider the revised course description for the Philosophy course from the Fall 2016 syllabus. Susan Rouse said that that the description was not changed in the catalog. Pauline Howes asked if an impact study was completed for the proposed course. There was some confusion on which course description was current for the proposed course.

Linda Treiber asked what the committee wanted to do with the Peace Studies Minor proposals. Last time the committee recommended that History and Philosophy be included in the discussion and it has not happened. Tom Pynn explained the history of Peace Studies and ISD to provide context for the proposals. Originally the PAX minor consisted of already existing courses that were a good fit. The original plan was to eventually propose a major, which led to the 5-tier structure of the PAX minor. Given the efforts to align the structure of minors and the trend to create prefix courses, the structure of the minor changed to a five-course minor, which led to the restructuring during which some courses were included and some left out. However, the minor also includes an elective and students can choose upper-division courses with the approval of the coordinator. Susan Rouse expressed concerns about course redundancy and objected to the apparent overlap between the courses for the average student. Alice Pate asked if the course could be offered regularly with the new prefix. Linda Treiber asked if a compromise were possible. Federica Santini described a similar issue between Foreign Languages and Asian Studies, in which cross-listing was used as a solution. Alice Pate said that there were full-time faculty in Philosophy who would have to rely on cross-listing to offer their courses. Linda Treiber asked if it would be possible to use Philosophies of Peace in the minor. Alice Pate proposed that since the proposal impacted another Department, it should be sent back to resolve potential conflicts. Motion approved by majority vote. Linda Treiber said that ISD (PAX) and other Departments should try to work out a compromise on the minor proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.