

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Committee on Curricula and Courses**

**Minutes for the meeting of September 10, 2002  
(Revised and approved, October 8, 2002)**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Henning in Room 162 of the Dodd Center at 3:34 pm. Present were Jocelyn Linnekin (ANTH), Jane Knox (CHEM), Carl Coelho (COMS), Stephen Sacks (ECON), Kentwood Wells (EEB), Thomas Roberts (ENGL), Ellen Cromley (GEOG), Shirley Roe (HIST), John Breen (JOUR), Andrea Calabrese (LING), Stuart Miller (MCL), Gerald Leibowitz (MATH), Annelie Skoog (MARN), Thomas Terry (MCB), Paul Bloomfield (PHIL), Evelyn Simien (POLS), Rob Henning (PSYC), Arnie Dashefsky (SOC), Marita McComiskey (WS), and Veronica Makowsky (Dean's office, CLAS).

**1. PRELIMINARIES**

- a. Stephen Sacks was appointed secretary for this meeting.
- b. Rob Henning welcomed the committee back from summer recess and presented a brief outline of its responsibilities.
- c. The scheduled visit by Marianne Buck, Publications Editor in the Registrar's office, was delayed due to illness. The possible appearance at today's meeting by Dean MacKinnon was prevented by another late meeting. The Dean has indicated he will try to attend our next regular meeting.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

**Item 2002-78** A letter addressed to the Chancellor and written by a "summer sub-committee" consisting of Arnold Dashefsky, Jane Knox, Gerry Leibowitz, Veronica Makowsky, John Manning and Rob Henning (Chair) was summarized. The letter clarified that while the Senate Gen Ed requirements do apply to all students, they do NOT replace the graduation requirements of the college. Discussion ensued. Tom Roberts moved (and Jocelyn Linnekin seconded) that the Committee ratify the letter. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 2002-83** Carl Coelho explained the rationale for this request to change COMM 135 from "recommended" to "prerequisite." There was discussion of the implications of this change for COMM 130 (which is to be a prerequisite) and COMM 235 (whether it will still be recommended or not). The Committee felt that some issues were unclear, so this item was deferred until a revised catalog copy is submitted..

**Item 2002-82** Veronica Makowsky presented this proposal to reinstate INTD 276 for just one semester. INTD had been dropped from the curriculum last year, but because of an error, PeopleSoft listed this course even though it had been removed from the catalog. In order not to leave stranded the 35 students who enrolled in the course, the Committee voted unanimously to approve this item. The intent of the Committee is that this course be removed from the catalog at the end of Fall '02.

**Item 2002-84** The Committee voted unanimously to approve a change in the Women's Studies major to reflect the added courses now available to its majors. During the discussion, it was agreed that the words "Upper Division" would be deleted from Section 5 of the proposal.

The revised catalog copy is as follows:

#### Women's Studies

The Women's Studies Program is a flexible interdisciplinary academic program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women. Combining the methods and insights of traditional academic disciplines with the special insights of Women's Studies scholarship, our courses yield fresh perspectives which help us to understand the origins of and changes in diverse cultural and social arrangements. The Women's Studies major is broad as well as flexible, and the student's program can readily reflect individual interests or complement a second major.

Gender is a common thread in our offerings, but it always interweaves with race, class, and other factors which contribute to the diversity of women's lives. The Women's Studies Program is committed to a vision of women and gender that is truly international and cross-cultural. Without this perspective, our view of the world is profoundly impoverished and stereotypes will continue to distort our understanding.

The Program prepares students to employ critical learning in their private lives, in their public roles as citizens and as members of the work force, and enhances their ability to work with and for women to create a more humane society. Women's Studies fosters interdisciplinary breadth and critical thinking and thus opens the way to a wide variety of career choices and graduate programs. Women's Studies students are flourishing in social service agencies, business, law, education, and journalism, and employers appreciate the broad interdisciplinary perspective of a Women's Studies education.

#### Core Courses

Students are required to take the following Core Courses:

- \* One 100 level WS Introductory Course
- \* WS 265 - Women's Studies Research Methodology
- \* PHIL 218 - Feminist Theory or WS 250 - Feminisms
- \* WS 261/262 - Women's Studies Internship Program
- \* WS 289W - Senior Seminar in Women's Studies.

#### Supporting Courses

Students are required to take five Supporting Courses. In addition majors must complete at least 15 credits of 200 level courses that should be selected with the guidance of their faculty advisor. At least three of these courses will be Women's Studies or cross-listed courses. Two of the five supporting courses may include cross-referenced courses that cover special topics relevant to feminist scholarship in various departments. Such cross-referenced courses will be applied to the major with approval of the Program Director.

#### Related courses:

Students must take an additional 12 credits at the 200 level or above in fields closely related to the major. No required course in the major or in the related area may be taken pass/fail.

**Item 2002-79** Associate Dean Ron Growney has offered some technical support resources from the CLAS office to help us improve the CC&C website. A sub-committee was formed consisting of Tom Terry (chair), Tom Roberts, Annelie Skoog, Ellen Cromley, and Rob Henning (ex officio).

**Item 2002-80** and **Item 2002-81** Some alternative approaches for changing CLAS graduation/breadth requirements were presented by the Chair. A wide-ranging discussion ensued that included the following topics:

- a. the need for all departments/programs to be aware of how to go about requesting changes to the CLAS requirements
- b. the probable impact of the new Senate rules on CLAS and departments within CLAS
- c. timing issues in CLAS curriculum reform in relation to general education reform by Senate and GEOC
- d. the need to consider B.S. requirements (cf. B.A. requirements).
- e. the need to first focus on W, Q, and C requirements, with the possible elimination of C requirements.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Sacks,  
Secretary *pro tempore*