

**College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Committee on Curricula & Courses
Minutes for the meeting of 12 April, 2011 (approved April 26, 2011)
3:30 pm in Room 162, Dodd Research Center**

Acting Chair Robert Henning (PSYC). **Members Present:** Margaret Breen (ENGL), Thomas Craemer (PubPol), Jon Gajewski (LING), Jane Goldman (HDFS), David Knecht (MCB), Lynn Kuo (STAT), Richard Langlois (ECON), Charles Lansing (HIST), Gerald Leibowitz (MATH), Paul Lewis (EEB), Jocelyn Linnekin (ANTH), Robert G. Michel (CHEM), Richard Rockwell (SOCI), Roger Travis (MCL). **CLAS Dean's Office representatives:** Doug Hamilton, Katrina Higgins. **Visitors:** Shareen Hertel (HRTS), Glenn Mitoma (HRTS), and Alexia Smith (ANTH).

I. PRELIMINARIES

Acting Chair Robert Henning called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

A. Appointment of a secretary for this meeting.

Craemer appointed.

B. Minutes of the 15 March 2011 meeting:

Minutes approved with correction of misplaced word in 2011 - 9 Add WS 3252.

C. Leadership of this committee

Chair Henning reports that Jack Manning is recovering well, although tiring easily. Members of the committee express their hope for a continued speedy recovery. Henning announces that Jack may preside at the last meeting of the semester (4/26, 3:30pm, Room 162, Dodd Research Center) and/or present the CLAS CC&C report at the CLAS Annual Meeting (4/27, 3:30 - 5:00, CLAS Room 105). In the meantime review of chair candidates has begun with the goal of having a new chair by May commencement. Candidates for chair are Jocelyn Linnekin and Robert Michel.

D. Liaison Subcommittee

Motion to accept the following liaison subcommittee members as appointed representatives of CLAS CC&C seconded and approved unanimously: Knecht, Gajewski, Breen, Thomas Bontly (member of the CogSci Steering Committee and former CC&C representative from PHIL), and Henning (chair).

E. Joint Major Subcommittee report

Jon Gajewski and Katrina Higgins report that their work continues to be in process.

F. Chair's report:

Chair informs committee on errors corrected in the approved catalog description of the Women's Studies Major and Minor replacing the word "Technology" by the word "Health.". Next time: a fuller report on the substitution of "cross listing" with "concentration area."

In the discussion about the proposal for the course *Introduction to Environmental Studies* questions arose about the home the course should have and what level it would be (3000-level). Since the program is truly interdisciplinary, ownership issues regarding the course arise that cause the proposal to move along with great difficulty. Chair had recommended that the proposal be submitted to UICC as a special topics course. Rockwell, Linnekin and Michel agreed to look into this on behalf of the committee to explore ways that CLAS could support the new course.

The Chair reports having initiated a conversation with the Director of the Honors Program, Lynne Goodstein, exploring possible departmental sponsorship of additional first-year experience 1-credit honors seminars (currently INTD 1784). Dr. Goodstein intends to discuss this possibility with her Honors Board of Associate Advisors, and may join us for our next meeting. The general idea is to have these courses departmentally based rather than INTD courses. Hamilton observed that in their present form many INTD courses lack faculty participation, and having the FYE courses tied to departments may lead to more participation. However, there was skepticism about this approach in which teaching these courses represents a teaching overload for faculty. Hamilton suggested that perhaps they could be counted into the teaching load. Another suggestion was for a course release after teaching three of these courses.

The Chair reports that he offered a dialog on behalf of the committee to the Humanities Institute regarding the establishment of a new Humanities Living & Learning Community in Fall 2011. Concerns are expressed by multiple members of the committee regarding the fact that faculty member who will be directing this LLC would be required to report to the director of First Year Programs, as stated in the position announcement circulated by Vice Provost Doug Cooper. The question arises whether there are other instances at UConn where this is the case.

The Chair reports having contacted Tom Deans (Associate Prof. ENGL; Director, W Center) and having obtained a copy of the W Course Task Force Report currently under review by the Senate. Copies of this report will be circulated prior to the April 26th meeting.

G. Honors rules changes (status update). Higgins & Henning

Currently the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the University Senate state that the Senate Committee on Scholastic Standards oversees the Honors Program, and delegates authority to the Standing Honors Committee to administer the program. Changes in regulations regarding the Honors program have to be submitted to the Senate via the Committee on Scholastic Standards (Section F.4.a, paraphrased). Because the regulations required by the Honors Program are not presently part of the By-Laws, there can be uncertainty about what changes the text of Section F.4.a refers to. Further, Senate approval of various Honors regulations has been inconsistent in the past. The Scholastic Standards Committee currently considers developing a motion for the Senate regarding incorporating the Regulations Governing the University of Connecticut Honors Program into the By-Laws. The Chair states that these changes will not come up for a vote until Fall, but once they do all Honors regulations with changes will become Senate By-Laws, and as such "the law of the land."

Several committee members voiced concern over the fact that these changes would make admission to the Honors Program entirely the domain of the Honors Program and would take away departmental control, especially over upper-division Honors. Furthermore, every time there is a need to change the Honors Regulations, this change would have to be voted on by the full Senate. One concern was that an Honors College approach at Storrs may adversely affect students at regional campuses, and may make UConn's two-tier structure more

pronounced. Some committee members expressed concern that the departments may become subservient to the Honors Program.

It was pointed out that CLAS originally had full responsibility for the Honors Program, and that it was removed from CLAS by action of the Provost. This causes confusion in the departments as to who is in charge of honors. Another committee member pointed out that, as a College, we may not have taken proper responsibility for the Honors Program, and that rather than complaining about control being wrested away from us now, we should come up with constructive suggestions. The chair proposed forming a subcommittee, and Knecht and Langlois, Michel and Linnekin volunteered to serve.

H. UICC (University Interdisciplinary Courses Committee):

Rockwell and Henning reported on the UICC meeting of April 11, 2011. This meeting was constructive, with members of the UICC agreeing that there are questions related to the University's strategic plan that need to be addressed but that these questions are beyond what the UICC can address. UICC is charged to review courses and curricula, not set university policies regarding strategic goals. Rockwell is working with other members of the UICC on a resolution calling for a university-wide task force. Hamilton supports the idea of a University wide task force since there are like-minded faculty in other schools.

In 2009 the University By-Laws were changed by President Hogan to allow units that report to the Provost to create and teach small-group, experiential, or service learning courses. It was noted that some of these courses are taught off campus and that some people hired to teach these courses are not tenured faculty. This is not only a problem because the University is growing in multiple directions without oversight, but course credits can count toward academic degrees offered within CLAS despite the fact that some of the courses are being graded according to standards we may not agree with. The proliferation of one-credit courses now allows students to easily accumulate a full semester's worth of course credits through enrolling in these 1-credit courses. It was suggested that data be collected to determine the extent that students are accumulating credit for one-credit course offerings.

Among the possible measures the committee discussed were limiting the number of graded one-credit offerings, the number of hours, and/or the number of courses not taught by faculty. Henning and Rockwell offered to try to develop a set of options for the next meeting. One objection voiced in the discussion is that if we pass such limits we would be placing the responsibility on other people for solving the grading problems in these courses.

[Secretary *pro tem* Craemer left early, Leibowitz kindly assumed the role of secretary.]

II. Course and Curriculum proposals

In order to accommodate several visitors, the proposals before the committee were not considered in the order in which they were received. However, they are shown below in the original docket order sequence.

I. New Departmental Proposals:

2011 – 17 Proposal to Add a W- version of SOCI 3411. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

SOCI 3411W. Work and Occupations

Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 3800; open to juniors or higher.

2011 – 18 Proposal to Add a W- version of SOCI 1701. Approved**Approved catalog copy:**

SOCI 1701W. Society in Global Perspective. Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 3800.

2011 – 19 Proposal to Change description for LING1010. Approved**Approved catalog copy:****LING 1010. Language and Mind**

(101) Either semester. Three credits.

Discussion of nature-nurture debate with specific reference to language acquisition. Pros and cons of Chomsky's Innateness Hypothesis. CA1.

2011 – 20 Proposal to Change description for LING 1020. Approved**Approved catalog copy:****LING 1020. Language and Environment**

(102) Second semester. Three credits.

Effects of geography, society, and politics on language use and variation (sociolinguistics). The geographical spread, growth and death of languages (language ecology). CA 2. CA 4-INT.

2011 – 21 Proposal to Change description for LING 1030. Approved**Approved catalog copy:****LING 1030. The Diversity of Languages**

(103) Either semester. Three credits. *Calabrese, van der Hulst*

Overview of world languages and language families. Typological classifications of linguistic properties: what can we expect in the structure of a language? Unity and diversity of language systems. Mechanisms of language change and variation. CA 2. CA 4.

2011 – 22 Proposal to Change description for LING 2010Q. Approved**Approved catalog copy:****LING 2010Q. The Science of Linguistics**

(110Q) Either semester. Three credits.

An introduction to the methods and major findings of linguistic research as applied to the sound systems of languages and the structure and meaning of words and sentences. CA 3.

2011 – 23 Proposal to Change the Linguistics/Philosophy joint Major. Approved**Approved catalog copy:**

For the **Linguistics and Philosophy** joint major, specifically required courses are [LING 3110](#), [LING 3510Q](#), and [PHIL 3241](#). For this joint major, exit requirements for computer technology and information literacy will be satisfied by passing [LING 3110](#). **The exit requirement for writing in the major will be satisfied by passing any W course in LING or PHIL at the 2000 level or above that has been approved by the student's advisor for inclusion in the plan**

of study.

2011 – 24 Proposal to Add ANTH 5706. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

ANTH 5706. Archaeobotany

3 credits. Lecture/Demonstration

Method and theory of studying archaeological plant remains in the laboratory, including sampling, identification, and interpretation of data.

2011 – 25 Proposal to Add ANTH 3706. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

ANTH 3706. Archaeobotany

3 credits. Lecture/Demonstration. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor required.

Method and theory of studying archaeological plant remains in the laboratory, including sampling, identification, and interpretation of data.

2011 – 26 Proposal to Add ANTH 3515. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

ANTH 3515. Ancient Civilizations of the Old World

Three credits. Recommended preparation: ANTH 1006 or 1500.

Examination of early civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus Valley, and sub-Saharan Africa. Theories explaining the development and collapse of early state-level societies are critically considered.

2011 – 27 Proposal to Add ANTH 5515. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

ANTH 5515. Ancient Civilizations of the Old World

3 credits. Seminar.

Examination of early civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus Valley, and sub-Saharan Africa. Theories explaining the development and collapse of early state-level societies are critically considered.

2011 – 28 Proposal to Add ANTH 5522. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

ANTH 5522. Ecological Anthropology

3 credits. Seminar.

Interdisciplinary study of human ecology integrating ecological and anthropological theory with archaeological, historical, and contemporary case studies.

2011 – 29 Proposal to Add HRTS 5999. Approved

Approved catalog copy:

HRTS 5999 Seminar in Human Rights

3 credits. Seminar. With a change of topic, students may enroll up to three times for a maximum of nine credits.

Variable topics in the study of human rights.

2011 – 30 Proposal to Change Human Development & Family Studies Major (to permit HDFS 1060 as an alternate to SOCI 1001 as a requirement). Approved

Approved catalog copy:

Students in the Human Development and Family Studies major must complete the following requirements: [HDFS 1070](#); [PSYC 1100](#), [1103](#) (or [1101](#)); [SOCI 1001](#) or HDFS 1060; and [STAT 1000](#) or [STAT 1100Q](#) (Note: These courses may also fulfill University General Education requirements.) Students must meet the computer technology, information literacy, and writing competency requirements through satisfactory completion of [HDFS 2004W](#) and one of the following [HDFS 4007W](#), [HDFS 4087W](#) or HDFS 4181W.

The major in Human Development and Family Studies requires 46 credits at the 2000-level or above including 34 credits in Human Development and Family Studies and 12 credits in courses related to but outside the major department. A student completing requirements for a major must have a grade point average of 2.0 or better in the credits that count toward the major in Human Development and Family Studies. Students are allowed much flexibility in tailoring their major to meet their particular interests and educational goals. Most students choose to focus their work in one or more of the following concentrations:

Early Childhood Development and Education, Childhood and Adolescence, Family Relationships: Services and Counseling, Family in Society: Social Policy and Planning, Adult Development and Aging

This major must include all of the following required courses: [HDFS 2001](#), [2004W](#), [2100](#), [2200](#), [2300](#) and one of the following [4007W](#), [4087W](#) or 4181W.

This major must include the completion of one of the following courses: [HDFS 3520](#), [3530](#), [3540](#), [3550](#)

This major also must include at least 12 credits from the following courses.

[HDFS 3083](#), [3087](#), [3092](#), [3098](#), [3101](#), [3102](#), [3103](#), [3120](#), [3122](#), [3123](#), [3125](#), [3126](#), [3130](#), [3240](#), [3249](#), [3252](#), [3261](#), [3268](#), [3277](#), [3310](#), [3311](#), [3319](#), [3340](#), [3342](#), [3420](#), [3421](#), [3423](#), [3430](#), [3431](#), [3432](#), [3442](#), [3510](#), [3520](#), [3530](#), [3540](#), [3550](#), [4004](#), [4087W](#), [4097](#). These 12 credits may include elections from among the four courses listed above ([HDFS 3520](#), [3530](#), [3540](#), [3550](#)), if not applied to satisfaction of the foregoing requirement.

As planned, the following items were postponed:

2011 – 31 Proposal to Add GEOG 4230 and cross list with GSCI 4230

2011 – 32 Proposal to Add GSCI 4230 and cross list with GEOG 4230

2011 – 33 Proposal to Add GOEG 5230 and cross list with GSCI 5230

2011 – 34 Proposal to Add GSCI 5230 and cross list with GEOG 5230

2011 – 35 Proposal to Change GEOG 3310

2011 – 36 Proposal to Change GEOG 3120 to GEOG 2200

2011 – 37 Proposal to Change GEOG 5150

2011 – 38 Proposal to Change GEOG 5620

2011 – 39 Proposal to Add GOEG 5560

2011 – 40 Proposal to Change GSCI 1052

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.

Submitted by Thomas Craemer, Secretary *pro tem*, who gratefully acknowledges the contribution of Gerald Leibowitz.