

MINUTES OF  
GRADUATE COLLEGE COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA

September 22, 2023

**Present:** N. Bird, R. Boody, M. Bunker, M. Conrad, A. Johnson, R. Kidwell, M. Kline, R. McNeal, S. Moore, G. Olivares, A. Shafer

**Absent:** R. Chowdhury, S. Coon, C. Christopher, S. Huffman, N. Lehman

**Guests:** J. Bessman Taylor, R. Dada, C. Kowalski, K. Krueger, S. Meacham, A. Oberle, M. Welford

The meeting was called to order by Chair Olivares at 2:30 pm in Lang 115

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Olivares welcomed all present.

Chair Olivares called for a vote on the September 15 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Curriculum Review Procedures for College of Education**

R. Boody moved, M. Bunker seconded, to approve consent agenda proposals from College of Education.

**Consent Agenda Items – Programs**

- LITERACYCOACH-CERTGR: Literacy Coach (deleted)
- READINGRECTCHRLDR-CERTGR: Reading Recovery Teacher Leader (deleted)

R. Boody said these programs are no longer active. R. Dada confirmed this was true.

- COMMHLTHREC-MA: Major in Recreation, Tourism and Nonprofit Leadership (edited)

C. Kowalski explained that since Public Health and RTNL used to be merged through the HRCS, now that RTNL has separated with Public Health, the department is just editing the major. They are hoping to reconfigure their courses and asses what to do going forward. G. Olivares said since the emerge/creation of the School of Health and Human Sciences, the department is focusing on editing the degree. R. Kidwell said the only change proposed was the title, nothing in the course requirements.

**R. Boody called for a vote on the motion to approve the College of Education consent agenda proposals. The motion passed unanimously.**

R. Boody moved, N. Bird seconded, to approve the proposal from College of Education.

**Agenda Items – Programs**

- CILITED-MAE: Literacy Education (edited)

S. Meacham said they are wanting to change parts of the program description, and making edits to one course in the program. The department is changing the required materials for admission to the program. S. Meacham explained that the department doesn't require two recommendations from professionals, or writing exams. These changes are reflected in the newer language proposed. S. Meacham mentioned that these decisions were based on the APR external reviewers' suggestions. The department has also proposed to change the course LITED 6290. They're wanting to change the title to 'Practicum in Literacy' in order to specify it into their profession. S. Meacham said that the minimum requirements set by the state require that the students have a practicum where the department sends their students to a professional that has a license in literacy. The previous course title and description doesn't specify that, so there has been some conflict.

**R. Boody called for a vote on the motion to approve the College of Education proposal. The motion passed unanimously.**

R. Boody moved, N. Bird seconded, to approve proposals from College of Education.

- LIBSTD-MA: Major in School Library Studies (edited)

J. Bessman Taylor explained that there have been new national standards that were published in 2019 for school librarians and library learners, so the department is trying to refresh their program. J. Bessman Taylor said that the School Library Studies program was 33 hours, so they decided to remove their SLS 6299 course. They already have a Research in Library Studies course that's a part of the program which fulfills the research piece for students. J. Bessman Taylor went on to say an additional change to the program included some refreshing to course titles, in order to help navigate endorsements within the program. The 108 (elementary endorsement) & 109 (secondary endorsement) work together towards the masters. Previously, it was confusing to understand what the pathways looked like. J. Bessman Taylor explained that with the proposed revisions, it would be clear that the elementary endorsement plus the secondary endorsement equals the full K-12 endorsement, which will now be their MA program.

N. Bird asked if there was no longer a thesis and non-thesis option, rather just one MA. J. Bessman Taylor said that was correct. Stating that they've not had many do the thesis option. G. Olivares wondered if the program needed to state that it's only offered as non-thesis. R. Kidwell said that any language above the program requirements will get updated. K. Krueger asked R. Kidwell if there was standard language that would be consist with other programs. R. Kidwell mentioned they typically say 'this program is offered thesis or non-thesis only.' They would follow that similar language.

R. Kidwell went on to ask if the comp exam is still required. J. Bessman Taylor said the department wanted to ask the committee what the parameters of requirements were around the comprehensive exam piece. R. Kidwell said it's an optional requirement. G. Olivares stated that the department determines the assessment. J. Bessman Taylor confirmed that the department could forgo the comprehensive exam piece. G. Olivares said there's still time to update the program requirements. Stating that it's more an internal process than a rule that needs to be approved. K. Krueger said they would like the opportunity to change the requirements during this cycle.

**R. Boody called for a vote on the motion to approve the College of Education proposal. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **III. Curriculum Review Procedures for College of Social & Behavioral Sciences**

R. McNeal moved, R. Boody seconded, to approve the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences proposals.

#### **Agenda Items – Program**

- GEOG-MA: Major in Geography (edited)

R. McNeal stated that there's no changes to the thesis option in the Geography program, rather a change to the non-thesis option. The department is making edits to prepare for a 4+1 or 3+1+1. R. McNeal explained that the 3+1+1 option has been arranged with colleges in different countries where students would take courses for three years at their out of the country college, one year at UNI for their undergraduate degree, and potentially another year to pursue a masters. Stating it's more of a professional's masters and is being proposed as a co-hort. R. McNeal said they needed a certain number of classes for the co-hort, which resulted in them adding an additional class. G. Olivares asked if the 4+1 would share credit. M. Welford said that was true. G. Olivares mentioned that they could submit the 4+1 proposal for this current curriculum cycle.

#### **Agenda Items – Course**

- GEOG 4570/5570: Sustainability and Geographic Leadership (added)

A. Oberle explained that the course has joint learning outcomes for undergraduate and graduate students, along with separate learning outcomes just for graduate students. The department also added in different point values and evaluations so that graduate and undergraduate students are evaluated on different scales. R. McNeal asked if graduate students are team leaders. A. Oberle said undergrads are contributing pieces to an edited volume (research and chapters), while graduate students are doing that as well, but also managing work flow, the process, and putting the edited volume together.

R. Boody asked how the department plans to pay for the course. A. Oberle said the course would be offered in the spring. The reason they made it a hybrid course was to increase the numbers because it is a valuable course for undergraduate and graduate students. M. Welford said the course would be tiered on each other, so the cost would be \$0 because their offering it at both levels. Stating that other courses have been eliminated so the burden isn't there. M. Bunker asked if a current professor would be teaching the course. A. Oberle responded yes.

**R. McNeal called for a vote on the motion to approve the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences proposals. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. Next Meeting – Friday, October 6, 2:30 pm, Lang 115**

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ava Shafer

Office of the Registrar

cc: UCC

GCCC

Guests

Record Analysts