CUCAS Minutes

November 13, 2014 in SC 202

2014-15 Members Present: Missy Alexander, Jay Brower (co-chair), Jessica Eckstein (co-chair), Dan Goble, Jess House, Dave Martin, Divya Sharma, Dave Smith, Rob Whittemore, Timothy Wiggins, Barb Piscopo, Registrar’s Office Representatives: Deanna Cibery Schaab

Members not present: Patrick Fallon, Nick Greco, Lawrence Immohr, Jerry Wilcox, PS rep (TBA) John Board (SGA), Matt Busse (SGA)

Called to order at 9:36 a.m.

I. Minutes of CUCAS meeting of October 16, 2014 approved. (Piscopo/Wiggins, 10-0)

II. Announcements
   a. Gen Ed Report (Alexander): The ad hoc committee has met and continues to work on creating an outline/guideline of paperwork to be submitted for all curriculum changes.

III. Old Business
   a. Website Status (Eckstein): The website has not been created since Eckstein currently does not have access. J. Shpunt (IT&I) is aware of the situation. Once access is granted, the website will be created/launched.
   b. Report from subcommittee regarding Required Submission list (Brower): An excel document has been created to assist individuals with the curriculum submission process. It details which changes need to be submitted to CUCAS for approval. Corrections and additions will be addressed at the December CUCAS meeting. The finalized document will be posted on the CUCAS website. Additions that were mentioned at today’s meeting (type of class, credits, cross listings, prereqs for COURSES section) have been incorporated into the attached document. Due to discussion about the discrepancy between Sharepoint and CUCAS, Brower will contact R. Corzo (who maintains Sharepoint), prior to the December CUCAS meeting, to determine a course of action to correct discrepancies. There was a recommendation for the ad hoc committee to discuss what should happen with submissions that are not identified correctly (indicate name change only but other information also changes) or if a submission lists incorrect information (such as the wrong prereq).
   c. Revisit Philosophy & Humanistic Studies New Course Proposals which were tabled last meeting. The motion to pick up the previous motion from the table and consider these proposals as a package was made (Goble/Whittemore). Motion approved (10/0). It was determined that PHI 3XX will be renamed from “Postmodernism” to “Philosophy of Postmodernism.” Also, a more descriptive course description will be created for the catalog. Goble mentioned that any specific references to textbooks, names of existing social media, websites etc should be removed since they might not exist in the future and be replaced with more generic statements (i.e., Social Media) to avoid having to update/resubmit the information in the future. The previous question regarding the motion on the floor was put to vote based on the understanding that the enumerated changes will be incorporated into the submission. Motion approved (10/0).
Motion to consider courses as packet (Goble/Piscopo, Approved in October meeting)
1. HUM 2XX: Gnosticism (CD1314119)
2. HUM 2XX: The Family and the State (CD1314118)
3. PHI 2XX: Philosophy of Women and Gender (CD1314117)
4. PHI 3XX: Postmodernism (CD1314116)
5. PHI 2XX: Philosophy of Literature (CD1314115)
6. PHI 2XX: Philosophy and Pop Culture (CD1314114)
7. PHI 2XX: Buddhist Philosophy (CD1314113)
8. PHI 2XX: Philosophy of Law and Legal Theory (CD1314112)

IV. New Business
a. Marketing (Drozdenko)
   1. New course proposal: MKT 3XX: Multicultural Marketing (CD1213232)
      Motion to approve discussion (Eckstein/Smith). No marketing representative attended the meeting. Due to questions regarding course philosophy, possible duplicity, and hard to measure learning outcomes, the proposal was tabled (Whittemore/Goble, 10/0) until the December CUCAS meeting. If a marketing representative cannot attend the December CUCAS meeting, D. Martin will have the necessary information on hand for discussion.
2. Transform CSCU 2020 (Brower)
   A document drafted for submission to BOR President Gray was introduced. The purpose is to give valued feedback to President Gray using information drawn from the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion for approval was made (Whittemore/Piscopo). After some discussion, the third sentence in paragraph five will be changed to: “It is, thusly, appropriate and necessary to recognize the authority of faculty in all matters related to curriculum and academic standards to maintain the dignity, and exercise the independence that is central to the protection of the public’s trust.” The resolution was approved (10/0).

V. Other
No other new business was introduced.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the midtown Student Center, Room 202.

attachments: Required Documents for CUCAS Curriculum Change Approval
             Transform Resolution CUCAS as Adopted
Transform Resolution CUCAS as Adopted:

Whereas, the Board of Regents for the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) is considering the adoption of Transform CSCU 2020 initiatives that will fundamentally change current undergraduate curricula and academic standards;

Whereas, prominent amongst matters of concern to the University Senate and its standing committees are curriculum policy and curricular structure;

Whereas, as it is recognized that mutual benefits are to be derived from continual improvement in the CSCU system, and that participation of faculty and professional employees in the formulation of policies under which they provide their services is educationally sound;

Resolved, that Western Connecticut State University urges the Board of Regents to submit all relevant Transform CSCU 2020 initiatives involving changes in curriculum, curricular policy, and academic standards to appropriate campus governance committees.

This request is predicated on the conviction that teaching is an essential task of academic institutions and a primary reason why the public values and supports higher education. Faculty are recognized experts in their areas of instruction, and uniquely equipped with the knowledge necessary to provide high-quality education. It is, thusly, appropriate and necessary to recognize the authority of faculty in all matters related to curriculum and academic standards to maintain the dignity, and exercise the independence that is central to the protection of the public’s trust.

Resolved by the WCSU University Senate Standing Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Standards
[Approved 11/13/2014]

Resolved by the WCSU Faculty Senate
[date]

Resolved by the WCSU Student Government Association
[date]