College of the Environment Curriculum Committee
Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2022
1:30 PM –2:30 PM

Present, Zoom:
• Aquatic & Fishery Sciences – Luke Tornabene
• Atmospheric Sciences – Greg Hakim
• Oceanography – Mikelle Nuwer
• Environmental and Forest Sciences – Sergey Rabotyagov
• Graduate Student Representatives – Taylor Ganz, Rosalind Echols
• Friday Harbor Labs – Mason Wiley
• Undergraduate Student Representatives – Anya Gavrylko, Jessica Goulet
• Dean’s Office – Michelle Hall, Jane Dolliver, Pam Barrett

ACTION ITEMS

1. Proposed course change from Oceanography (Mikelle Nuwer, 15 minutes):
   OCEAN 102 “The Changing Oceans” (adding DL designation)
   https://uw.kuali.co/cm/#/courses/view/61d48fe57853678d0657cbd1

   Summary of proposal: OCEAN 102 is a course Mikelle teaches. Each year the curriculum is changed slightly. The two major changes are:
   1) Drop “historical case studies” and references to deep sea exploration from the course description. This course is similar to SMEA 103, “Society and the Oceans” which was recently reviewed by the Committee for a DL designation. Both Instructors have not mapped any overlap of these two courses.
   2) DL listing: In past couple of years this course has been taught remotely. The model works well: learning goals met, high engagement, break out rooms provide space for group work, high attendance. Mikelle will work with Continuum College to offer OCEAN 102 during the summer 2022. To do that, the course needs a DL listing; the work with Continuum College cannot move forward without it. If/when the course is held 100% remote, teaching could be accomplished with an experienced TA every quarter, freeing Mikelle to teach other courses and increase Student Credit Hours (SCH).

   The committee approved the proposal pending final revisions:
   • Remove/re-word “Intended for nonmajors.” The course can be used as a STEM elective, so say “students without a science background.”
   • Module 2 and 3 – are there dates missing from the syllabus schedule? Module 2 is Jan 10-11; Module 3 is Jan 17-24.
   • Clarify grading – course proposal lists final project as 25% but syllabus says 20%.
   • Add text on how the students will be evaluated on the final project (e.g., writing x%, literature cited Y%) in the syllabus and in the proposal.

   ACTION: Michelle will send proposal back in the Curriculum Management system for revisions.
2. Teaching Support Team (TST) updates (Mikelle Nuwer, 15 minutes)

- Dean Maya Tolstoy is supportive of continuation of the Teaching Support Team (TST).
- If you are a unit not represented by TST (Earth and Space Sciences) and have a person in mind, please let us know.
- TST continues to hold weekly office hours: Mon 1-2pm, Thu 1:30-2:30pm
- Faculty who want to be in-person are getting push back from students who want an online option. The TST wants to support in-person instruction by empowering Instructors to tell students not to expect a remote option. Some faculty are teaching labs in-person (well-attended), but students are not coming to class.
- Autumn and Winter 2022 we have seen an incredible (~6X) increase in DRS requests. The TST put together a how-to doc ready to go on the Canvas page
- TST would like to initiate a formal, non-required, College teaching eval process.
- TST will be submitting a new course for a (non-required) 500-level College-wide Teaching methods course.
- An NSF-IGE graduate education proposal may be put forward in February 2022
- An NSF-EHR undergraduate education proposal may be put forward in July 2022.
- The TST is currently gathering some College data on attendance for in-person courses these past 2 weeks – if you teach an in-person course, please update us, coenvolt@uw.edu

3. Dean Tolstoy attending February 17 Curriculum Committee (first half hour) for introductions (Michelle Hall, 5 minutes)

Curriculum committee brainstormed discussing:

- cross-college collaboration and working together on interdisciplinary teaching (e.g., common things undergraduates need, common things grads need); this topic is connected to activity-based budgeting and desire for units not to cannibalize each other or create competing offerings; does dean have global vision or guidance on this?
- data science certification on degrees
- College role in career counseling: mentoring, coaching, resumes, cover letters
- undergraduate degree pathways – which should you choose based on where you see yourself – maybe create a matchmaking quiz?

**ACTION:** Michelle will ask Dean if she has a list to discuss with the Committee.

4. Office of the University Registrar UW Curriculum Office Request for Complete Course Proposals (Michelle Hall, 5 minutes)

There is a staffing shortage at UWCO – currently 1 staff member left to manage all proposals. Incomplete proposals or revisions will come back to College. Michelle will send edits back to the unit or update directly. The Associate Deans have convened a group of curriculum coordinators and directors to problem solve ongoing issues with UWCO and support one another on the idiosyncrasies and review process, including written guidance for syllabi and degree proposals.

**INFORMATION ITEM:** ESS MESSAGE program suspending admissions for 2022-2023.

Meeting adjourned: 2:30 PM