
Curriculum Committee Minutes

Sub-Committee of the Academic Senate

Spring 2021 Semester

Meeting Thursday, April 29, 2021 2:15 pm via Zoom

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/98469399331>

Present: Luna Celeste, Gina Cullen, Rachel Klein, Bob McCoy, Sara McKinnon, Lori Michelangelo, George Golitzin, Ingrid Kelly, Lisa Morse, Steve Newton, Heather Rahman, Kathleen Smyth, Cari Torres, Logan Wood, Holly Shafer, Derek Wilson, Nancy Willet, Grace Mengqi Yuan

Absent: Sheldon Carroll, Becky Reetz, Kevin Muller

Guests: Angela Olmanson, Ron Palmer, Cesar Pomajulca, Tonya Hersch, Blaze Woodlief, Douglas Bawden, Alina Varona, Patrick Kelly

Standing Items

1. Call to Order at 2:15 pm via zoom
2. Approval of the agenda
Motion to approve: Derek Wilson
Second the motion: Bob McCoy
Vote: approved
3. Approval of the minutes
Motion to approve: Derek Wilson
Second the motion: Heather Rahman
Vote: approved
Abstained: Ingrid Kelly, George Golitzin, Lisa Morse, Kathleen Smyth
4. Chair Announcements
 - Curriculum Institute 2021 is from July 7th to 9th. Gina will reach out to faculty who may have interests in attending.

Discussion Items

1. Presentation: MEDA unit change – Cesar Pomajulca

Proposed statement for the units change in MEDA externship labs:

Course affected:

MEDA 171L and MEDA 174L (A, B and C)

Units change:

To decrease the units on MEDA 171L from 1.5 to 1.0. Since we offer 2 sessions, the total decrease in units

will be 1.0

To increase the units on MEDA 174L from 2.5 to 3.5.

Total Teaching units gained/lost:

None

Total Student units gained/lost:

+.5

Rational

MEDA 174L (externship) only offers 120 hours of exposure and it is schedule 2 days a week. The 2 problems that we face are scheduling and reduced number of hours.

Scheduling: Many managers think it is not convenient for the students to go 2 days a week only and restart the training 5 days after. They seem to think there is a lack of continuity and is not actually preparing the students for the full demand of the job creating a unreal expectation of the job demands.

Reduced number of hours: Externship is a crucial part of their training. Many external certifying agencies require a total hands-on experience of 160 hours. Bringing the number units to 3.5 will offer a total of 168 hours, giving our graduates the opportunity to opt for other certifications in the field and being more competitive when they search for jobs.

Q&A:

- Lori asked about if the medical offices wanted more hours for students. Cesar answered that they preferred to have students coming in from Monday to Friday instead of the two-day schedule. Outside agencies require at least 160 hours, which we do not offer now. We do not offer National certification.

2. AUTO Revision – Ron Palmer

ACRT/AUTO/MACH/WELD 100 added precision measurement and increase to 5 units
Reallocating AUTO 112 series and 116 series due to the changes in the industry.

Q&A:

- Grace mentioned the degrees and certificates would need to be updated to the revised units. There were no further questions from the committee.

3. WELD updates – Derek Wilson

Derek talked about industry updates, employer perspective, and skills needed for employment. According to industry trends, CE creates two tracks in WELD to fulfill the need from the welding companies. WELD program is under review at BACCCC.

Q&A:

- Nancy asked the WELD courses that were approved by May Board. Gina and Grace will research the history of WELD revision and provide an update to CC in the Fall semester.

4. ENGL 120 – Blaze Woodlief

Rationale in eLumen:

Revising to expand from 3 to 4 units and add in effective aspects of English 120AC, which will no longer be offered, to improve the preparation of students who want to develop stronger reading and writing skills before taking transfer-level courses. This COR expands the current Eng 120 course by adding in one more lecture hour, which allows us to include more focus on active reading skills, more support in becoming proficient in all aspects of the writing process, more focus on summary, synthesis and use of sources, and more scaffolding for longer and more complex essays, which will better prepare them for transfer-level writing and reading. Effective approaches and assignments from English 120AC have been incorporated. The prerequisites have been removed due to AB 705

Q&A:

- There was a question about resource. Blaze clarified that 120AC is discontinued as of Fall 2021 so that units could shift to 120 and the overall units would be decreased.
- Logan asked if students would bypass the course because of the high unit? Blaze answered that they don't know how much a difference would make of this one-unit difference.

5. New degree in Public Safety – New Degree Presentation by Doug Bawden

Q&A:

- Gina asked if employment requires an AA. Doug shared that Fire Advisory Committee said the industry is moving towards that direction. Angela clarified that an AA is required for promotion.
- Gina pointed it out that because this is a local degree, the major requirements can double count for local GE.
- Lori suggested content on bioterrorism in the degree.
- Kathleen talked about that at least half of the courses on the proposal could be taken online. Doug said it was intentional and best-serving the fire fighters.
- Sara gave her full support.
- Bob asked how the courses were selected on the degree. Alina said courses were picked considering people need a degree to advancement, and take courses that are complementary to what folks already do.
- Patrick asked what type of degree needed for advancement. Alina said any degree would work but preferable if the degree is relevant. Patrick asked if Fire tech related courses would be helpful to this degree. Alina said that Paramedic and fire programs are impacted but fire degrees are under enrolled, so that COM is proposing a generic degree to build the path for fire professionals to earn a degree.
- George said he was not convinced that the degree aimed at the field of study of Public Safety. He talked about the context of major/concentration and the meaning of degree. Rachel chimed in and said that some of the courses, Sociology and Psychology courses, are studies will complement to public safety professionals.
- Lori asked if we anticipate that fire professionals would be required to have a degree related to fire science/technology in the future. Doug said that the proposal builds upon the needs from the current fire advisory committee, which are comprised of EMS employees and Fire Chiefs across Marin County.
- Sara suggested to divide the courses into two groups to provide more guidance to students in choosing courses. Kathleen commented that Fire departments are looking for ways to make fire fighters more well-rounded. Several members seconded Kathleen's comment and supported Sara's suggestion.
- Gina would call an emergency meeting to make a decision on the proposal.

Action:

1. Chair election: Nominee Gina Cullen

Vote: Approved; all yes, 0 against, 0 abstention.

MEDA units change – vote: Approved; all yes, 0 against, 0 abstention.

AUTO units change – vote: Approved; all yes, 0 against, 0 abstention.

ENLG 120 change -Sara motioned to approve; Derek seconded the motion. Vote: approved.

Approved; all yes, 0 against, 0 abstention.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.