
Curriculum Committee Minutes

Sub-Committee of the Academic Senate

Spring 2023 Semester

Meeting Thursday, April 27, 2023, 2:15 pm

Emergency Zoom link: [https://marin-edu.zoom.us/j/ 86122873907](https://marin-edu.zoom.us/j/86122873907)

Present: Sheldon Carroll, Gina Cullen, Luna Finlayson, Bob McCoy, Sara McKinnon, Kathleen Smyth, Alex Jones, Kevin Muller, Beth Sheofsky, Scott Serafin, Cari Torres

Guests: Dan Zaffran and Tina Christensen

Absent: Sara Malmquist-West, Grace Yuan

Standing Items

1. Call to Order at 2:17 pm in AC 303
2. Approval of the amended agenda
 - Motion to approve the agenda: Bob McCoy
 - Second the motion: Luna Finlayson Vote: approved
3. Approval of the minutes
 - Motion to approve: Bob McCoy
 - Second the motion: Kevin Muller
 - Vote: approved.
4. Chair Announcements: we have a final meeting on May 11th; most faculty appointed to the Curriculum Committee will serve one more year; let Gina know so we know the composition and membership over the next few weeks

Discussion:

1. Biol 102- Science skills for success in STEM and Pre-Allied health – presented by Tina Christensen
Gina gave some background and explained that this class existed as BIOL 99 and now is picking another number so that it is degree-applicable and possibly transferable for students (CSU – likely not UC). Late-start course – how late, not sure. Not a companion course; three units and could be taken concurrently with Biology or Chemistry or pre-allied health classes. Growth mindset content and technical skills and content to get more prepared for the science courses (might have missed in high school or took it a long time ago); provided rough outline to share with the committee members

Tina presented: fill a gap that she notices in Biology 110 and beyond – anatomy and physiology classes; students (AB 705) don't have access to the same prep courses; don't necessarily need an entire class to bring students up to the level where they need to be to be successful (the prereq – don't need but need a brush-up). Some students are insecure and want to take something before jumping straight in. Students who are rusty and need some extra support. Comments: math lab could help; Tina refers students to the math lab (not sure if they go there) and maybe signing up for a class is more intentional; complement to the class (the math lab); build and incorporate skills over the course of the semester (repetition) to help solidify learning. Start a few weeks into the semester to capture the students in time and still meet the contact hours. Get them in and practice the skills throughout the semester and can take alongside other classes that require the same or similar skills. Can take it as a standalone if they like. Building your confidence. Allows for students to get a refresher. Need to promote it to students (work with MESA program that is starting up). Enrollment is a concern. Will catch on when people learn about it. Summer Bridge could be a helpful feeder (there is a STEM component in Summer Bridge). Not in violation of AB 705/1705. Some math but is very specific to the classes not below-level math class/levels. Acceptable workaround!

2. Math 123C- companion course for Math 123 – presented by Dan Zaffran
Dan presented: companion course was presented last meeting – Math 123. AB 1705 and why presenting this as an option. Offer concurrent support – companion classes. With AB 1705, need more support. Precalculus is before Math 123 and students would be allowed in. Some may go straight in and will need the support via a companion course/concurrent support. May not end up using the companion course and may use the Math Lab instead but want the option. Have a framework the companion course, which is a lab 1.5 hours per week for .5 unit. No work outside of class. It's credit only, pass/no pass, non-transferable. Students seem to prefer getting credit over noncredit in the companion courses. Can we require companion courses? The Chancellor's Office will allow this?

Action Items

Consent Agenda:

Action: All items on the consent agenda were approved. Bob McCoy motioned in favor to approve and Luna Finlayson seconded the motion.

1. Math 106 – Math for Elementary School Teachers (CI-D title/may change course title per CC recommendations)
2. Motorsports certificate
3. Lower class size from 35 to 25 for Coun 117 PIQ review course
4. Noncredit version of Coun 110 and 129 for ESL students in the fall

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.