ASCC 10/10/14

385 Bricker Hall 8:30-10:30am

Approved Minutes

ATTENDEES: Aski, Bitters, Breitenberger, Cashin, Collier, Craigmile, Daly, Fink, Haddad, Heysel, Hogle, Krissek, Jenkins, Lam, Mitzen, Mughan, Stetson, Taleghani-Nikazm, Vaessin, Vankeerbergen, Wesenberg, Yerkes

AGENDA:

1. Approval of 9-26-14 minutes
   * Stetson, Lam, unanimously approved
2. Panel reports
   * A&H
     + Art Education 5367 approved
     + Film Studies 4650 approved
       - Course was originally submitted as a 4000 level course but then resubmitted as a 5000 level course. The Panel thought it was more appropriate as a 4000 level course and the department agreed that 4000 level is what they intended.
     + German 2250 approved with contingency
       - Seemed to be more of a Cultures & Ideas course than a Literature course
     + History of Art 5060 approved
     + Russian 3530 approved with contingency
     + Theatre 5835 approved
     + The Panel is finding that proposals are not specific about assignments, are checking all course offering lengths, curricular maps are missing or incomplete, and instructors are doing more course assessment with grades than GE assessment.
   * SBS
     + Economics 5860 approved with contingency
     + International Studies 4451 approved with contingency
       - Clarify whether the course can be part of the Film Studies minor
     + Psychology 1200 approved
   * Assessment
     + Co-chairs met to discuss the work of the Panel for the coming year. Will be reviewing course set reports submitted and reporting back to ASCC.
3. New Human Rights Minor (guests: Tony Mughan and Wendy Hesford)
   * Panel Chair: the panel approved the revisions made to the program with minor recommendations.
   * This minor fulfills the growing importance of human rights in today’s society and allows students to explore the issue of human rights from multiple perspectives. The strength of the program lies in its variety and flexibility.
   * The minor is modeled on the Globalization Studies minor. The defining characteristic of this specific minor is that students are required to do half of their courses in the social sciences and the other half in the arts and humanities. Other International Studies programs are heavily social science based.
   * Six individuals from the English department have worked on this proposal and receive a lot of support from the entire English department. The Chair of the department has agreed to provide 2 awards each year for 5 years for the best student papers in Human Rights.
   * Started with a minor because there were not enough courses across the university to develop a full major. If the appropriate courses become available, a major could be established. If students are signing up for this minor, it may send a signal to others that there is demand for these types of courses.
     + When considering creating a major it’s important to start with goals of the program and use backward design.
   * Committee member: Economics may be a department that is missing from the list of courses.
     + Response: When developing this proposal hundreds of syllabi were reviewed over a 2 year time frame. Courses in Economics could be reviewed again, but when the original review was done the courses seemed more theoretical. Those developing the minor also wanted to make sure that the courses were explicitly human rights and not just courses that spent one or two weeks on the topic.
   * **Panel letter, Vaessin, unanimously approved**
     + *On the Minor Advising Sheet under Experiential Learning Credit add “If this option is chosen, one of the two remaining courses must come from the Arts and Humanities grouping and the other from the Social Sciences grouping.”*
4. Revision to Andean and Amazonian Studies Minor
   * The department considered issues related to the growth of the minor and the sustainability of the Andean language offerings. The department has found ways to increase the flexibility of the minor:
     + They have proposed to move history 2111 to the Core Courses section, raising the minimum limit to 9 credit hours, and lowering the “Required Courses” section to 3 credit hours to allow for more flexibility.
     + Instead of distinguishing “Core” from “Elective” courses based on percentage of content (50/75%), they replaced it with language that allows for students to petition for inclusion of courses in particular areas.
     + They included intermediate Quechua courses as options within the core in order to ensure that these courses have a place on an approved academic degree plan.
   * Seems challenging in practice with upper level courses that may have pre-requisites. This makes the minor rather narrow.
   * If students choose all 3 language courses in the core, it becomes more of a language minor than culture based.
   * This minor is a point of pride for the department and very unique.
   * **Panel letter, Stetson, unanimously approved with one contingency** *(and one recommendation in italics below)*
     + **Contingency: Advising sheet: “inexhaustible natural resources” should be removed. Suggestion: “vast natural resources”.**
     + *Recommendation: Course title on advising sheet: “Feast of Famine” should be “Feast or Famine.”*
5. Revision to the Professional Writing Minor
   * The Minor Program in Professional Writing was moved from the Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing (CSTW) to the Department of English in 2013. This move required that three courses from the CSTW curriculum be removed with the addition of two courses in the English undergraduate curriculum. The English internship course was also re-titled with a name change to include a wide variety of career fields instead of just experiences requiring writing, editing, and/or research. Their proposal also included courses being moved into different elective categories as well as deleting a ‘Special Permissions Category.’
   * *Eng 4189: Professional Writing Minor: Capstone Internship. Internships are numbered x191. The course number could confuse students. If the unit already has an x191 course, they could consider decimalizing.*
   * The minor has experienced a 350% growth since 2009.
   * **Panel letter, Craigmile, unanimously approved** 
     + *Use standard language on the advising sheet. The description of credit hours on the right side should state that “at least 6 of these should be at the 3000 level.”*
     + *ASCCAS will pose the question about English 4189.*
6. Revision to Italian Minor
   * The Italian section of the Department of French and Italian would like to raise the requirement to obtain a minor from four courses to five. The additional course would be a course taught in English offered in the Department of French and Italian, and the course may overlap with the GE. The rationale for the change was to add more depth to students’ preparation in culture, history, and literature by requiring that they explore these topics in their native language.
   * *The advising sheet states that students will be taking 8000 level courses. Students must petition the graduate school to receive undergraduate credit. A conversation should be had with the graduate school regarding this. ASCCAS will replace this statement with the following: “Students must petition to receive undergraduate credit for the following courses.”*
   * *ASCCAS will correct the typo on the advising sheet: “with advanced languages skills.”*
   * **Panel letter, Stetson, 1 abstention, approved**