

**Curricular Affairs Committee**

**Minutes for meeting on Mon., April 13, 2015 – 1-2pm, Kayak Room**

Invited: Brian Cook, Catherine Hanks, Cindy Hardy, Dennis Moser, Joan Hornig, Ken Abramowicz, Rainer Newberry, Rob Duke, Todd Radenbaugh (remote), Doug Goering, Jayne Harvie, Alex Fitts, Carol Gering, Caty Oehring, Casey Byrne, Holly Sherouse, Libby Eddy, Linda Hapsmith, Stacey Howdeshell

**I. A**

### C. Gen Ed issues update

Brian discussed his meeting with Cecile Lardon, Debu Misra, Leah Berman, and David Valentine strategizing about how to move forward; there are some major sticking points about changing university GER regulations. Philosophical differences between UAF and faculty are proving difficult to rectify.

### D. Motion to replace PHC courses

#### DRAFT MOTION:

The Faculty Senate moves to replace the current Perspectives on the Human Condition (PHC) courses in the Core Curriculum with pre-approved lists of courses from which students can select to fulfill General Education Requirements in humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Students will need to complete 15 total credits: 3 credits in arts, 3 credits in humanities, 6 credits in social sciences, and 3 credits from an additional course in any one of the three areas.

This change will go towards fulfilling Learning Outcome 1 of the learning outcomes adopted by Faculty Senate in 2011: Build knowledge of Human Institutions, Social Processes, and the Physical and Natural World through the study of the natural and social sciences, technologies, mathematics, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2016

RATIONALE: As part of its work, the General Education Revitalization Committee (GERC) has recommended this change to facilitate students' achievement of learning outcomes previously approved by the Faculty Senate. Providing lists of courses instead of specified courses will increase the opportunity for students to choose topics most interesting to them when they are completing their general education requirements.

Further, the Board of Regents has mandated that UAF, UAA and UAS come up with a plan for aligning their general education requirements. UAF is currently the outlier in its offering very few options for completing general education requirements; UAA and UAS currently have approved lists of courses.

The 3 areas (arts, humanities, social sciences)

- o At least 6 credits in the social sciences from 2 different disciplines

Questions:

social science general education requirements) to replace the current Perspectives on the Human Condition (PHC) courses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that during the 2015 - 2016 academic year the UAF Faculty Senate will adopt a classification list system that will meet general education requirements in arts, humanities, and social sciences in lieu of the currently - mandated PHC courses, with the new system to take full effect as of the 2016 - 17 Course Catalog.

The following item was not taken up, pending the open forum meeting scheduled for April 23.

**E. O/W Change to Communications requirement**

- x Current version (below) reflects revisions by Cindy Hardy (marked in what will likely appear **grey**).

Draft MOTION:

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~~The General Education Revitalization Committee and the Curricular Affairs Committee recommend that the Faculty Senate moves to replace the upper division Oral (O) and Written (W) designators REQUIREMENT with the requirement that each degree program must satisfy the following Communications Learning Outcomes within the degree program:~~

UAF undergraduates will demonstrate effective communication when they are able to:

- x Explain disciplinary content using a variety of modes of communication.
- x Communicate to audiences in the discipline using appropriate disciplinary conventions.
- x Translate disciplinary content to audiences outside the discipline, making disciplinary knowledge relevant to broader communities.
- x Integrate feedback from others to enhance or revise communication.

Each baccalaureate degree program must submit a Communications Plan that demonstrates how students will achieve each of the learning outcomes as part of the requirements of the major or degree program. Not all courses or requirements need to support every outcome; however, all the outcomes must be met by the completion of the degree.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2016

RATIONALE: The GERC committee and Curricular Affairs, as part of ~~THEIR~~ knojor its

that ~~is transparent to the student and~~ is achieved ~~simply~~ by the student completing the degree requirements associated with their program.

2. To ensure student achievement of these Communications Learning Outcomes, each department will demonstrate how ~~the program~~ addresses these learning outcomes by developing a Communications Plan that integrates communication ~~at the lower- and upperlevel~~ into each degree or program, typically via a collection of
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