Florida Institute of Technology
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
November 20, 2015
8:00 a.m.
F.W. Olin Physical Sciences Building
Second-Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.
The Chair welcomed the Committee.

The following items remained on the Consent Agenda and were unanimously approved.
Consent Agenda:

1. College of Aeronautics
   a. CGR – B.S. Aeronautical Science – Flight
   b. CGR – B.S. Aviation Management – Flight
   c. CRC – AHF 1101 – Introduction to Aviation Psychology
   d. CRC – AHF 3101 – Introduction to Human Factors
   e. CRC – AVT 4201 – Advanced Aircraft Systems
   f. CRC – AVT 4202 – Advanced Aircraft Operations
   g. CRC – AVT 4203 – Airline Operations
   h. CRC – AVT 4302 – Air Traffic Control 2
   i. CRC – AVM 4303 – General Aviation Operations and Management

2. College of Business
   a. CGR – B.A. Computer Information Systems
   b. CGR – B.A. Accounting
   c. CGR – B.A. Business Administration – Healthcare Management
   d. CGR – B.A. Business Administration – Management
   e. CGR – B.A. Business Administration – Marketing
   f. CGR – B.A. Business Administration – Accounting
   g. ANM – A.A. Management

College of Engineering

3. Department of Biomedical Engineering
   a. ANC – BME 4030 – Biofluid Mechanics 2
   b. ANC – BME 4110 – Tissue Engineering
   c. ANC – BME 4444 – Neuroengineering
   d. ANC – BME 4700 – Biomechanics 2

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

4. School of Arts and Communication
   a. ANC – HUM 4085 – Special Topics in Humanities

5. School of Psychology
   a. CRC – PSY 4000 – Field Internship and Research Project
   b. CRC – PSF 4591 – Critical Issues in Forensic Psychology
   c. CRC – PSF 4551 – Principles of Individual and Community Advocacy
   d. ANC – PSF 4491 – Legal Psychology
   e. CGR – B.A. Psychology
   f. CGR – B.A. Forensic Psychology
Consent Agenda Discussion Items:

The following item was discussed and unanimously tabled.

1. College of Aeronautics
   a. ANM – A.A. Aviation Management (Online)

It was asked whether Associate degrees were required to meet the same University Core Curriculum (Core) as were Bachelor degrees, to which the answer was “yes.” It was then pointed out that the Core requires 9 credit hours of humanities, and while this program has HUM 2051 (Civilization 1) and the Humanities Core Elective, it does not have the remaining 3 credits of humanities. Because the College of Aeronautics could not immediately resolve the issue, a motion was made to table consideration for approval, with the expectation that the College would resolve the problem by Monday (Nov. 23) so that the Committee could vote to approve (as amended) by Tuesday (Nov. 24).

NOTE: After the meeting, the College of Aeronautics provided a proposed amendment to resolve the issue wherein the options for the social science requirement between CRM 1000, PSY 1411, or SOC 1101 were dropped in favor of using AHF 3101 to meet the social science requirement (since adding the ‘SS’ designation to this course was approved on the Consent Agenda). This permits the addition of a 3-credit humanities elective requirement without changing the number of credits in the program. A motion to approve the new program as amended as made, and approved via an email vote.

The following item was discussed and unanimously approved.

1. College of Aeronautics
   b. ANC – AVT 1200 – Introduction to Aircraft Systems

It was mistakenly believed that this course was to replace three one-credit courses such that those one-credit courses were to be deactivated in the University Catalog (Catalog). The College of Aeronautics clarified that the three one-credit courses were going to be still be offered, and that AVT 1200 was only replacing them as required courses in two of its flight programs. With that clarification, the objection was withdrawn.

The following items were discussed and unanimously tabled.

2. College of Business
   a. CGR – A.A. Accounting
   b. CGR – A.A. Healthcare Management
   c. CGR – A.A. Marketing
   d. CGR – A.A. Business Administration

As with Item 1a, these degrees include HUM 2051 and the Humanities Core Elective, but not the remaining 3 required humanities credits. Because the College of Business could not immediately resolve the issue, a motion was made to table consideration for approval, with the expectation that the College would resolve the problem by Monday (Nov. 23) so that the Committee could vote to approve (as amended) by Tuesday (Nov. 24).

NOTE: After the meeting, the College of Business provided proposed amendments to resolve the issues. The proposed amendments are attached in an appendix to these minutes. A motion to approve the changes to the programs as amended as made, and approved via an email vote.
The following item was discussed and unanimously approved.

2. College of Business
   a. ANM – B.A. Management
   b. EMG – B.A. Management

It was asked which course satisfied the Quality Enhancement [Q] requirement for this program, to which the answer was EMG 4006 (Business Plan Research). It was asked whether the [Q] courses appear automatically in the Catalog. In response, it was explained that the [Q] designation does not appear next to the name of the courses in the program course listing, however when one clicks the link to a course, all the designations, including the [Q], appear with the course description. The objection was withdrawn.

The following item was discussed and unanimously approved.

College of Engineering
3. Department of Biomedical Engineering
   a. CGR – B.S. Biomedical Engineering

It was noted that on the CGR form, the box indicating whether the proposed changes would impact program assessment was checked “yes,” and it was asked whether this should be approved by Dr. Baloga (VP for Institutional Effectiveness and International Programs). In response, the Chair noted that he mentioned this to Dr. Baloga earlier in the week and that she indicated that she would take a look at it, but did not foresee any issues.

The following items were discussed and unanimously approved.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts
5. School of Psychology
   d. CRC – PSY 3541 – Psychology of Leadership
   e. CRC – PSY 3543 – Psychology of the Workplace
   f. CRC – PSY 3551 – Introduction to Child Advocacy
   g. CRC – BEH 4025 – Applied Behavioral Analysis and Exceptional Learners
   i. CRC – PSY 3421 – Psychology of Learning and Motivation

For each of these, it was requested to add the ‘SS’ designation. A question arose as to whether the definition of a Social Science Elective in the catalog was too broad, suggesting that it could be interpreted that every course in “anthropology, psychology, sociology,...” satisfies social science elective, and that perhaps the word “some” should be added prior to “anthropology” in the definition. This is particularly relevant given the Committee’s recent discussions on what courses ought to have the ‘LA’ (Liberal Arts) designation. In response, it was alternatively suggested that the entire sentence reading “Studies of society and of the relationship of the individual to society including anthropology, psychology,...” simply lists areas of social science, and that the following sentence, “These courses are designated as SS or HU/SS in the Course Descriptions section.” specifically clarifies which courses can be used as a social science elective. The Committee agreed that the language, as is, was sufficient.

The following item was discussed and unanimously approved, as amended.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts
5. School of Psychology
   k. CGR – B.S. Psychology

As presented, the program’s proposed changes include a “Science in Humanities elective, 3 credits” requirement. It was pointed out that the Catalog does not define such an elective, and that calling this a “Restricted Elective” would be more appropriate. The School of Psychology had no objection to this amendment.
The following items was discussed and unanimously approved, as amended.

**College of Psychology and Liberal Arts**

5. School of Psychology
   n. CGR – B.A. Applied Behavior Analysis

It was pointed out that, in the past, other programs were not permitted to change the title of a program without going through the process of adding a new major or minor. The School of Psychology indicated that this had been brought to its attention earlier in the week, and did not object to withdrawing the request to change the program’s title. The School indicated that there was a concern that there could be some confusion about the title in the future, that they would monitor it, and consider in the future whether to go through the process of adding a new program and deactivating the current program. The CGR form was amended accordingly.

The following item was discussed and unanimously approved, as amended.

6. **College of Science**
   a. ANC – BIO 2925 – Field Biology and Ecology – Africa

There was some confusion about the number of class hours listed on the form, noting that it was written that the course would have 20 class hours per semester, but also 10 lecture hours and 100 lab hours per semester. In response, the Dept. of Biological Sciences indicated that the “Class Hours” should be summed to 110, that the other listed hours were correct, and that the total is in alignment with the number of credit hours for the course. The form was accordingly amended.

**Discussion Items:**

1. Language Proficiency – Dr. Rosiene

Dr. Rosiene (School of Arts and Communication) requested, for those programs that have a language requirement, to change the requirement to one based upon proficiency rather than the number of courses or credits that a student takes in languages. The rationale is that some students come to FIT with prior knowledge and proficiency in a particular language, and with such students it is common that higher-level courses in that language cannot be offered, and he or she must take lower-level courses of another language to satisfy the requirement. It was proposed that the requirement be that a student be proficient to at least the level of the “Intermediate 2” language courses. In that case, such students will still need to take additional courses to make up any number of credits required for the degree program that might otherwise have been satisfied by prerequisite language courses. It was asked whether program plans would change, to which the response was “not significantly.” Credit from language courses not offered by Florida Tech might transfer as LNG 2xxx, and the students would still have to potentially make up prerequisite credits for the overall degree which might require small changes to an individual student’s program plan, but more than that is not foreseen.

A motion was made to change the language requirement (in programs that have such a requirement) to one where students must show language proficiency to the “Intermediate 2” language course level, and to remove the requirement based on the number of credits and/or courses, which was approved on a vote of 16-0-1.

Dr. Rosiene also asked the Committee their opinion on reducing the requirement to receive Advanced Placement credit for languages from a minimum of a ’4’ to a ’3’, and to award credit for the appropriate “Intermediate 1” language level, rather than the “Elementary” levels. This would make FIT more consistent
with the state schools, however, it would also be the only subject matter area in the Catalog where a ‘3’ is accepted. He also noted that the CLEP exam score ranges in the Catalog were already in line with the state schools. A question was asked as to whether the AP scores and credit awarded should be consistent across campus, to which the general consensus was “no,” that it should be left to the individual department to determine what AP score level is appropriate to award credit for courses offered by that department. As such, it was recognized that if the School felt this was appropriate, the Committee should leave it to the School’s discretion, and a vote on the matter was not called.

2. Removal of SS Designation from Language Courses – Dr. Rosiene  
Dr. Rosiene requested that the ‘SS’ designation on language courses be removed, and that the definition of a social science elective be amended to remove the phrase “foreign languages.” He acknowledged requests in the past to remove both the ‘SS’ and ‘HU’ designations, requests that he voted against in the past, as this was too much of a change and would go too far in disincentivizing students from starting a study of a new language, explaining that he felt that the courses provided enough humanities content to justify retaining the ‘HU’ designation. Dr. Rosiene also acknowledged past and present resistance, particularly from the College of Engineering, to requests to remove either designation. However, he explained that having both the ‘HU’ and ‘SS’ designations does not align with other universities, and that while several universities have language requirements for all their programs, none that he could find provide social science credit for language courses, nor do they consider learning a foreign language to be a social science. At other institutions, languages are usually bundled with the humanities and/or fine arts. In addition, Dr. Rosiene suspected that many students took the language courses to satisfy humanities elective requirements, and not social science elective requirements, and that several students take elementary languages to satisfy such requirements because they are viewed by the students as “easy” courses that require little reading and/or writing in English. For example, he noted that he has upwards of 40 Middle-Eastern students waitlisted to enroll in LNG 1301 (Elementary Spanish 1), leading him to question the motivations of the students attempting to enroll in the course.

In response, it was first noted that the definition of a Social Science Elective in the Catalog clearly stated that topics in foreign languages fell under the umbrella of social science, however it was pointed out that changing that definition was part of Dr. Rosiene’s request. Second, it was explained that, at least from the College of Engineering’s perspective, whether the study of languages constitutes a social science elective isn’t so much important as it is for their students to take a foreign language, particularly in today’s global social and economic environment. In response to this, it was suggested that the students could still take languages to satisfy their humanities and/or free elective(s). It was also pointed out that it shouldn’t matter what incentives students may or may not have to take a course when it comes to determining whether a course has sufficient social science content to put the ‘SS’ designation on a course. A further suggestion was that if the College of Engineering wants their students to take a language, they could make such a requirement in their programs, however it was explained that there is no room in the engineering programs for such a requirement unless there was a willingness to modify the Core requirements to permit Liberal Arts electives as an alternative to Social Science electives—a discussion beyond the current scope.

Because similar discussions have occurred in the past, some of the history of the discussion was described. For example, it had been suggested in the past that languages only be allowed to satisfy Liberal Arts electives, but this met with strong resistance to remove the ‘HU/SS’ designation. Also, in the past, it had been suggested to keep the ‘SS’ designation for the lower-tier language courses because they included some
of the culture of the region(s) where the language is spoken, where the upper-tier courses were more about verb conjugation, etc. However in response to the latter point, others felt the opposite position was true, that it is in the lower-tier courses where language structure and syntax were primarily taught, and it was the upper-tier courses that included more cultural content.

Another point made against removing the ‘SS’ designation was that social sciences were about learning to communicate and interact with society and other cultures, and that the study of a foreign language fell squarely under that umbrella. Additionally, from a practical point of view, removal of the ‘SS’ designation would reduce enrollment in the upper-tier language courses because students would not have incentives to progress that far, though it was pointed out that currently very few students outside programs with language requirements take the upper-tier language courses, and it was not viewed that removal of the ‘SS’ designation would have any effect on enrollment in those courses. It was also suggested that there are many other courses with the ‘SS’ designation, however in response it was explained that while that is true, and while most of those courses have been offered at least once in the past year and half or so, many are not practical to satisfy social science electives in programs that only have the one elective requirement because many of those courses have prerequisites that either already satisfy social science elective (for example, PSY 1411 – Introduction to Psychology), or that would not otherwise satisfy degree requirements. Also, eliminating language courses from satisfying the social science requirement reduces the students’ options on appropriate subject matter (i.e. psychology vs. languages vs. history, etc.).

Because it was evident that there were divisions in the Committee on this issue, and strong feelings on both sides, it was suggested that perhaps the issue be tabled and another committee or members of the administration consider the issue. However, the general consensus was that the UGCC is the appropriate body to consider and resolve the matter.

A motion was made to remove the ‘SS’ designation from all LNG courses and that the definition of a Social Science Elective in the Catalog be amended to remove the phrase “…foreign languages other than a student’s home language…” The motion was approved on a vote of 14-2-1.

The Chair wished everyone a happy holiday season, and noted the next meeting date. Our next regular meeting is Fri., Jan. 29 at 8:00 a.m. in the Physical Sciences conference room. Agenda items are due Fri., Jan. 22.

The meeting ended at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Archambault – Chair
Appendix – Proposed Amendments from the College of Business for Consent Agenda Items 2a – 2d.

The following revisions are put forth to agenda items 2: a-d for the November 20th UGCC meeting. This is in regards to the business AA program graduation requirement changes and keeping them in sync with the university core requirements. To do so we will be dropping one course and adding a HUM elective to all 4 existing AA degrees. In addition, the AA in Healthcare Management was noted to have listed 67 credits of courses in the proposal. This has been dropped to 64 and an additional course has been removed as outlined below:

Please note that EEC 2303 Macroeconomics and EEC 2304 Microeconomics are considered social science (SS) courses in the catalog and would thus satisfy our SS core requirements. In addition, EEC 2303 is the course we use for social science assessment for SACS.

AA - Accounting (pg 4)
- Drop Social Science Elective (3 credits)
- Add HUM Elective (1000-level or above) 3 credits

AA – Marketing – (pg 9)
- Drop Social Science Elective (3 credits)
- Add HUM Elective (1000-level or above) 3 credits

AA – Healthcare Management (pg. 7)
- Drop Social Science Elective (3 credits)
- Drop ELA 2601 Law 1
- Add HUM Elective (1000-level or above) 3 credits

AA – Business Administration (pg 14)
- Drop Social Science Elective (3 credits)
- Keep/add the original HUM Elective (1000-level or above) 3 credits
  (Please note, for this one we originally requested to drop one HUM elective. Strike this line on pg. 11)

As noted in the meeting, we will also drop the specific prefix for the BA social science electives. They will just read: Social Science Elective (SS)