CASNR Curriculum Committee Minutes
Friday, February 5, 2016
2:00 pm
901 Hardin Hall, UNL

P  Fabio Mattos  Agricultural Economics  2015-2017
P  L.J. McElravy, Vice-Chr.  ALEC  2015-2017
P  Dennis McCallister for  Agronomy and Horticulture  2014-2016
Walt Schacht
Kathleen Anderson
P  Karin van Dijk  Biochemistry  2014-2016
P  Rick Stowell, Chair  Biological Systems Engineering  2015-2017
A  Steve Danielson  Entomology  2014-2016
A  Vicki Schlegel  Food Science and Technology  2014-2016
P  Gary Yuen  Plant Pathology  2015-2017
P  Mark Burbach  School of Natural Resources  2015-2017
P  Bruce Brodersen  School of VMBS  2014-2016
P  John Markwell  CASNR Dean’s Office
A  Colton Flower  CASNR Advisory Board Rep.

Guests: Dave Gosselin and Steve Waller

Vice-Chair L.J. McElravy called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

I. MINUTES from the Previous Meeting - January 15, 2016
Bruce Brodersen moved to approve and Mark Burbach seconded the motion.
Approved

Chair Rick Stowell assumed leadership of the meeting at 2:07 pm.

II. OLD Business
A. SCIL 101 - Science and Decision-Making for a Complex World - New course
   Approved via e-mail vote 1/29/16

B. Potential of SCIL 101 Replacing AGRI/NRES 103 as CASNR Requirement
Dean Steve Waller was present to provide information. Jenny Dauer was present at the May 2015 CASNR Curriculum Committee Planning and Transition Meeting and provided information on the course. Dean Waller would like the Curriculum Committee to consider SCIL 101 as a replacement for AGRI/NRES 103 with approval by faculty. AGRI/NRES 103 would be terminated after CASNR Faculty and UCC approval of SCIL 101. AGRI/NRES 103 has been taught the last two years using the conceptual framework proposed in SCIL 101. The committee asked what the timeline for this approval would be. He reported that it would be helpful if this was approved by the first of March, with deletion of AGRI/NRES 103 by the end of March (before priority registration). Concerns discussed:
* Is the proposed course ‘developmentally appropriate’ for the students?
* Was assessment used in course development? If so how was it incorporated?
* What was the history of 103? What was the rationale for the course originally? When was it first taught (1994)? What was behind the evolving negative reputation (i.e. what are we trying to fix)?
* A perception that faculty have not been aware of the revision of the course;
* Is there evidence that SCIL 101 addresses the prior concerns with AGRI/NRES 103?

Dean Waller reported that Lindsey Hastings in the ALEC department had piloted the predecessor of SCIL 101 with Tom Field in the Fall 2013. Numerous assessments contributed to the revisions of the course including an extensive assessment by Dr. Gary Bailey. Lisa Karr-Lilienthal reported that one of her students is a TA in Jenny Dauer’s class and the TA is excited about the new approach in the course. Students seem more comfortable in discussions. The student poster sessions are impressive. The course has migrated from having discipline-based, independent lectures to focusing on an integrated, decision making approach using current topics. Dean Waller apologized for not making it clear that the intent was for SCIL101 to replace AGRI/NRES 103 as the College’s core introductory course, contingent on faculty approval. The committee asked why AGRI/NRES 103 was not revised? He answered that in the past faculty and advisors have expressed concerns about AGRI/NRES 103. Its reputation included problems because of the delivery of the course; many instructors who taught different ways; decoupled recitation sections; inconsistent expectations for LIBR 110 and lack of relevance to other courses. Changing the prefix and number of the College introductory core course would signify a new approach better than a revision using the AGRI/NRES 103 nomenclature. The committee suggested that a strong Executive Summary be included with the Summary of Actions so faculty are aware of what is happening. Department representatives from Animal Science, Biochemistry, the Schools of Natural Resources and Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences would approve this action. Agronomy and Horticulture and Agricultural Economics will appreciate more details.

Gary Yuen moved to request information from CASNR to justify the proposed replacement of AGRI/NRES 103 with SCIL 101. Dennis McCallister seconded the motion. The motion was amended by Bruce Brodersen to send out an Executive Summary with the Curriculum Committee Summary of Actions.

**Approved**

Mark Burbach moved to accept SCIL 101 as a replacement for AGRI/NRES 103 in the College core and Bruce Brodersen seconded the motion. The motion was amended by Gary Yuen to accept SCIL 101 as a replacement for AGRI/NRES 103 contingent on approval by the University Curriculum Committee.

**Approved**
The committee decided if approval of SCIL 101 is delayed that it should not be taught until Fall 2017. If SCIL 101 is approved in time and AGRI/NRES 103 is still on the books, then 103 should not be taught. A blanket substitution would be requested to replace AGRI/NRES 103 with SCIL 101.

III. NEW Business
A. AECN 395 - Internship in Agricultural and Biological Systems Engineering - New course
   Bruce Brodersen moved to approve and Karin van Dijk seconded the motion. The grading rubric needs to be added to the syllabus.
   Approved with Revision

B. AGEN 470H - Honors: Design Project I - Deletion of course
C. BSEN 470H - Honors; Design Project I - Deletion of course
D. AGEN 480H - Honors: Design Project II - Deletion of course
E. BSEN 480H - Honors: Design Project II - Deletion of course
   L.J. McElravy moved to delete these four courses and Mark Burbach seconded the motion.
   Approved

F. Environmental Education - Revision of minor
   Dave Gosselin provided information. They have added two courses to the minor: ENVR 496 and SCIL 300. L.J. McElravy moved to approve and Gary Yuen seconded the motion.
   Approved

G. Society and Environment - New minor
   Dave Gosselin provided information. He has mailed out 14 requests to departments asking for permission to list their courses in the minor. As discussed at the January 15th meeting, Track 4 of the minor has been deleted as it was similar to the energy science minor. The 18 credit hour minor includes nine credit hours of core courses. Each student can then choose an additional nine credit hours in one of three tracks: 1) Built Environment, 2) Community Development, and 3) Food, Environment, and the Landscape.
   Dennis McCallister moved to approve and Gary Yuen seconded the motion.
   Approved

H. Leadership and Entrepreneurship - Minor revision
I. Leadership and Communication - Minor revision
J. Agricultural Education Leadership - Option revision
   L.J. McElravy moved to postpone action on these three agenda items, and Mark Burbach seconded the motion. The revisions include a new course that will be on the agenda February 19th.
   Approved Postponement

IV. Adjournment
   The meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm. The next meeting will be February 19, 2016.
   Secretary,
   Carol J. Wusk

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