A regular meeting of the Faculty Senate University Curriculum Committee was convened at 3:30 p.m. on October 18, 2007, in Martin 128 with Chair Stefan Cairns presiding and Mona Duncan substituting as secretary. 

Members present: Leigh Ann Blunt, Renee Cole, Michael Grelle, Margaret Kantz, Mary Kelly, Carmen Lock, Terry Nicoletti, Joseph Vaughn, Christine Wright, Clint Orr, Dan Shierenbeck and Xiaodong Yue.

Absent: Keshav Bhattarai, Lori Cochran, Doug Couch, Nicholas Fessler, Mary Ellen Rowe, Joy Stevenson, and Jim Taylor.

Guests: Wayne Stalick and Jason Holland.

I. Minutes
Approval of September minutes delayed.

II. New Program Proposal(s)
The Department of Biochemistry, Chemistry and Physics in the College of Science and Technology proposed two new programs:

Forensic Chemistry, BS Functional
Wayne Stalick/Jason Holland gave a brief presentation stating there is high demand for people in these careers. Discussion followed regarding the forensic course in Biology, lab equipment needed and grant money available. Biology has written a letter of support for this new program in Chemistry. There is likely support from Safety Science and Criminal Justice as each emphasis is different.
Wright/Cairns made a motion to approve the Forensic Chemistry, BS Functional new program proposal. Passed Unanimously.

Biochemistry, BS Functional
Jason Holland stated that the field of biochemistry has revolutionized and UCM has not caught up. We have had few updates and want to have applicable ideas for students going to work in the field. Now we want to have competency along with the name. Hope program will bring new students. Biochemistry is fastest area. Truman and SW have degrees comparable. Now we are losing students to other schools. Discussion followed concerning current course offerings in chemistry and biology and number of courses needed for this new program. New class will be for biochemistry students, elective for chemistry and graduate course for MS in biology. The number of major hours required is high – 77, but needed according to the presenters.
Wright/Kelly made a motion to approve the Biochemistry, BS Functional new program proposal. Passed Unanimously.

Additionally, FSUCC made an official umbrella decision to give Stefan Cairns authority to take “functional” out of majors if the faculty senate motion is approved by the University President.

III. Discussion Item(s):

Status of Minors, Functional Majors and 120 hours
This Faculty Senate Motion is awaiting approval by the University President.
UCC Motions for Faculty Senate
Renee Cole originally suggested her motion that students can use a major in another degree to replace a minor requirement of a different degree be removed contingent upon the president’s approval. It was pointed out; however, that even if the president does approve the university requirement of a minor, departments can still require minors. It was felt that both motions still were to be presented to the Faculty Senate.

UCC Membership
Stefan Cairns asked what feedback committee members had received from their colleges concerning UCC membership. The goal is to improve communication between UCC and all colleges. Some prefer representation be by the curriculum chair, others by a member of the college committee. Cairns stated the option can always be left to each college as long as the person is also a member of the college curriculum committee. Cairns stated that he has advised Faculty Senate the process will be changed – election from one from each college. Additional discussion followed with the outcome that Chris Wright will write up a motion and email it in time for a vote at the next meeting.

General Education Update and Feedback
Mike Grelle said he missed the meeting but the task force has been working on process for the Committee to re-look at Gen Ed and has recommendations coming. Mary Kelly said Honors Students already have flexibility. Grelle said they have almost individual programs for gen eds for them. Dan Schierenbeck’s group is looking at it for statewide competencies - Senate Bill 389. Honors students may not have it in their interest to be individualized. Cairns said we want a checks and balance system. Cairns said we need list of exceptions made. We need consistency.

Feedback for Adding Program Emphasis or Concentration - Stefan
Discussion concerning areas vs. options as defined in the curriculum handbook, catalog and by CBHE. We need to decide what the process is to make these definitions more clear and consistent. Is it internal or is CBHE approval required? Mike Grelle will ask CBHE if UCM may use an internal label for differences in a program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mona Duncan/Donna Mayeux
Recording Secretary

Next meeting will be November 15, 2007, 3:30 P.M. in MAR 128
Any questions, please contact Stefan Cairns, Committee Chair at extension 8291