

## UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Date:** February 3, 2010

**Present:** Agnes Samples  
Brian Gurney  
Cindy Dell  
Mick Ender

Mark Jacobson  
Cheryl Young  
Vern Gagnon

**Absent:** Gary Acton

Carl Castles – *excused*

**Guests:** John Cech

Susan Stewart



Cindy Dell called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. in room 113 of the COT Health Sciences Building.

The December 2 meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

### I. ITEMS – FIRST READING

**Item 29** HIST 109 Current World Problems. Delete course.

- Motion by Vern Gagnon, seconded by Mark Jacobson to **approve Item 29 on first reading.**

It was noted that this course is no longer taught and was left out of the new Common Course Numbering list for History.

- Motion carried.

- Motion by Vern Gagnon, seconded by Brian Gurney to **waive second reading of Item 29.**

- Motion carried.

**Item 32** AS Program of Study in Human Resources General Applied Emphasis. Modification of an existing program.

**Item 32.a** AS Program of Study in Human Resources COB Articulated Emphasis. Modification of an existing program.

**Item 32.b** Certificate of AS in Human Resource Management. Modification of an existing program.

- Motion by Agnes Samples, seconded by Brian Gurney to **approve Items 32 through 32.b on first reading.**

It was noted that all three of these program changes add an option for students to take a workshop rather than a cooperative education/internship. The students must take 2 credits as part of the program, but may take up to 3.

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.
- Motion by Mark Jacobson, seconded by Agnes Samples to **waive second reading of Items 32 through 32.b.**
- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

**Item 33** AAS in Sustainable Energy Technician. New program.

**Item 33.a** Certificate of AF in Sustainable Energy Technician. New program.

**Item 33.b** SET 110 Introduction to Sustainable Energy. New course.

**Item 33.c** SET 120 Fundamentals of Mechanical Systems. New course.

**Item 33.d** SET 130 Fundamentals of Hydraulic/Pneumatic Systems. New course.

**Item 33.e** SET 150 Industrial Safety and Rigging. New course.

**Item 33.f** SET 160 AC/DC Electronics I. New course.

**Item 33.g** SET 170 Electric Motors and Generators. New course.

**Item 33.h** SET 180 AC/DC Electronics II. New course.

**Item 33.i** SET 250 Wind Technician Safety. New course.

**Item 33.j** SET 252 Wind Turbine Equipment. New course.

**Item 33.k** SET 254 Wind Turbine Operations and Maintenance. New course.

**Item 33.L** SET 260 Electrical Power and Distribution I. New course.

**Item 33.m** SET 264 Electrical Power and Distribution II. New course.

**Item 33.n** SET 270 Electronic Drive Systems. New course.

**Item 33.o** SET 280 Programmable Logic Controllers. New course.

**Item 33.p** SET 284 Digital Electronics. New course.

- Motion by Mark Jacobson, seconded by Agnes Samples to **approve Items 33 through 33.p on first reading.**

Vern Gagnon stated that this is a collaborative project with the MSUB COT, MSU Great Falls COT, MSU-Northern, and Montana Tech. The federal Community-Based Job Training grant, written by Great Falls, will fund this project on all four campuses. Great Falls is also leading the curriculum development, ensuring that the first year of the program is the same at all four institutions. The second year allows for flexibility to tailor to individual campuses and to aid in marketing. Items 33.b through 33.p are all new SET (Sustainable Energy Tech) courses with a significant emphasis on wind energy. The total for the AAS is 61 credits, low for an AAS program. This allows MSUB COT to build in additional courses in other non-wind areas like geothermal, solar, and alternative combustion energy sources. The cap on an AAS is 72 credits. Item 33.a is the Certificate of Applied Science, which basically serves as an exit point after the first year of the program. No additional staffing is required for the Certificate because it is already within the AAS program.

Mr. Gagnon noted they will most likely need to hire one new full-time faculty member and supplement the courses with both part-time and existing COT faculty who have appropriate expertise. The front end of the grant will pay for the new faculty line, but the question becomes when does this program need to be self-sustaining. We are also a bit behind in implementing the grant, so we will most likely have to request an extension on the time period of the grant in order to get all the dollars spent. Currently, the grant is set to end in February, 2012.

Mr. Gagnon cited that this will be a spring start program. This may result in low enrollments at first, but students will hopefully benefit in the future since they can start in the fall with remedial courses they may need, especially math. Dean John Cech noted that the Process Plant program was also started in this manner, and it has been a good model. All the other units are fall start programs. Dean Cech also cited that the grant will pay for the equipment needed, and the HVACR program is ending, thus making classroom space for the new program.

The question was raised as to whether there are people in the area who can teach in this program. Mr. Gagnon responded that there are people available—the question is will they teach for what we can pay them. There are almost no funds in the grant for faculty training, so we are hoping to cross-train among the four institutions involved. Great Falls will start their program in Fall 2010. Butte and Northern started in Fall 2009 with very little advertising and already have a few students.

Mr. Gagnon stated that Lorrie Steerey, Chair of the Academic Senate, the Provost, and Chancellor are aware of this program coming forward. The program will go to the Board of Regents as a submission item for the March meeting and for approval at the May meeting. It seems that the BOR are moving away from their objection to program duplication. With Common Course Numbering, it seems we are moving as a system to *more* program duplication.

It was noted that if a student gets off the course rotation, they will be behind an entire year. Mr. Gagnon noted that students will have to keep up with this intense program, but the other institutions are on a different cycle and a student could pick up a course at one of them. Dean Cech stated they are looking at hybrid courses with the online component taught by faculty at another institution involved in the program.

It was cited that many of these alternative energy technologies are only viable with heavy government subsidies. Utilities are pushing against such technologies for obvious reasons, and wind is a very small industry right now. The COT should not get too deep into this program because it may prove difficult to carry on. Mr. Gagnon noted that he only agreed to work on this proposal if the second year of the program could be built with more flexibility, thus allowing graduates to gain employment in other areas besides wind. It was cited that the new faculty line is not tenure-track, thus allowing the program to be shut down if necessary.

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

- Motion by Mark Jacobson, seconded by Mick Ender to **waive second reading of Items 33 through 33.p.**

- Motion carried with 1 opposed and 1 abstention.

**Item 34** AAS in Automobile Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology. Modification of an existing program.

- Motion by Mark Jacobson, seconded by Agnes Samples to **approve Item 34 on first reading.**

It was noted that students in this program are often finding employment without completing ASE certification—some may not even attempt the certification. The ASE exam can be used as an assessment tool for the program, because if students take the exam while going to school the COT receives the results. To combat exam issues, a course in the Auto Tech program was developed that helps students prep for the ASE exam. This course is also appropriate to the Auto Body program because it is the same prep. This program change adds the existing Auto Tech exam prep class to the Auto Body program as a requirement. The student is required to attempt, but not pass, the ASE exam while in the course. It is possible that the student can fail the ASE exam but will still pass the class.

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

- Motion by Mark Jacobson, seconded by Brian Gurney to **waive second reading of Item 34.**

- Motion carried with 1 abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

rjrm