Annual Report of the Faculty Curriculum Committee (2021-2022)

Prepared by Xi Cui

May 2022
Committee Members:
Chairperson: Xi Cui (Communication)
Secretary: Dan Maroncelli (Mathematics)
Roster members: Amy Gordonier (History), Anthony Greene (African American Studies), Susan Kattwinkel (Theatre and Dance), Amanda Kraft (Library), Dan Maroncelli (Mathematics), Matt Nowlin (Political Science), Brooke van Horn (Chemistry), Allison Welch (Biology)
Ex-official members: Mark Del Mastro (Associate Provost of Academic Affairs), Divya Bhati (Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness), Lisa Chesney (Interim Registrar, September through December 2021), Tom Buchheit (Interim Registrar, since January 2022), Jerry Mackeldon (Assistant Registrar, Degree Works specialist), Franklin Czwazka (Curriculog specialist, September through December 2022), Raquel Gleicher (Faculty Secretariat, Curriculog specialist)

Review Activities:
The committee held eight meetings in the academic year. Due to the pandemic, all meetings were conducted on Zoom. The meetings happened at 3 pm on Sept. 10, 2021, Oct. 8, 2021, Nov. 12, 2021, Dec. 10, 2021, Jan. 14, 2022, Feb. 11, 2022, Mar. 4, 2022, and Apr. 15, 2022.

A total of 208 proposals were reviewed including 17 in September, 15 in October, 37 in November, 16 in December, 44 in January, 63 in February, and 16 in March. Among these proposals, the committee reviewed and approved the addition of a two-course REI requirement to the College’s curriculum.

Xi Cui presented the proposals approved at each committee meeting to the Senate on Oct. 5, 2021, Nov. 2, 2021, Dec. 7, 2021, Jan. 11, 2022, Feb. 1, 2022, Mar. 1, 2022, and Apr. 1, 2022. All proposals were approved by the Senate.

Procedural Adjustments:
1. A significant change to the review process was implemented this year. Instead of using the OAKS discussion board to collect FCC members’ questions for each proposal to be answered at the monthly meeting, the committee decided to give FCC OAKS access to each month’s
originators, so questions and responses can happen and be mostly resolved before the meeting. This change simplifies the review process, shortens the monthly meeting, and allows the committee to focus on important issues at the meetings.

2. To address some persistent issues in the formulation of student learning outcomes in proposals, in the Spring semester of 2022, in consultation with Mark Del Mastro, Divya Bhati, and Shawn Morrison (Chair of the Graduate Committee), Xi Cui revised the FCC webpages on student learning outcomes (https://currcomm.cofc.edu/student-learning-outcomes/index.php). The revision is intended to provide more straightforward guidance for future proposals by providing Curriculog screenshots and spelling out the S.M.A.R.T. framework with additional examples for both course and program SLOs. An FAQ section is also added.

**Policy Revision:**
1. In consultation with the Academic Planning Committee, at the Apr. 15 meeting, the committee approved a motion to simplify future proposals of small course changes. It is decided that the committee will no longer require sample syllabi for proposals of changing course prefix/number, title, description, and contact/credit hours. A sample syllabus will still be needed for a cross-listing change proposal.

   The Graduate Council and the Senate’s Graduate Committee were notified of the change. A corresponding change for graduate curriculum proposals was also approved.

2. The committee discussed revising the “Interdisciplinary Guidelines” (https://currcomm.cofc.edu/guidelines-interdisc/index.php) at the March and April meetings. Members proposed that (1) a more explicit definition of interdisciplinary program is needed; (2) a collaboration to better highlight or advertise interdisciplinary programs should be established among this committee, Academic Affairs, and the College’s marketing team; (3) an audit of existing interdisciplinary programs against the guidelines may be needed to update the catalog. No motion was made, and the discussion and implementation of revising the guidelines will carry into the next academic year.
Members of incoming Curriculum Committee (2022-2023):

Beatriz Maldonado (International Studies) (elected chair for the 2022-2023 academic year)
Dan Maroncelli (Mathematics) (secretary)
Gordanier, Amy (History)
Greene, Anthony (African American Studies)
Hudson, Kelly (Library)
Kyryliuk, Becky (Health and Human Performance)
LeVasseur, Todd (Other)