

## Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Meeting of March 20, 2012

Draft Minutes

Present: Dean Crabtree for Associate Dean Im, Professors Fernandez, Garvey, Johnson (chair), Lacy, Peduti, Rosivach, Ruffini, Walker-Canton, Zhang

Absent: Xie

### I. Approval of Minutes: February 14, 2012 and February 28, 2012 meetings

Zhang moved to accept the draft minutes of February 14, 2012; Garvey seconded the motion. Crabtree commented on the routing of ASCC; technical questions would refer to Academic Dean of Arts and Sciences rather than the Academic council. If the question were an election question, then it would refer first to the secretary of the college faculty, then to the secretary of the general faculty. The motion to accept the minutes as emended was passed unanimously.

Lacy moved to accept the draft minutes of February 28, 2012; Fernandez seconded the motion. Fernandez asked that the comment regarding DSB be stricken, since the Math 11 comment was instead regarding the Biology department by analogy. Peduti and Walker-Canton asked for corrections regarding their names. The motion as emended passed with eight votes in favor and two abstentions.

### II. New Course approvals:

Professor Simon presented on behalf of the proposal of EN497 as a seminar on rhetoric composition and pedagogy while EN498 as a rhetoric and composition paid practicum. EN498 would be a summer workshop option beyond the 60 credits of MFA 4-year program. Thus, this is not a curricular change, but a means to provide flexibility for students, who seek more experience for job placement. Twelve students of 70 students polled were interested in EN498. Students would be paid modestly.

Questions followed. Ruffini asked how students would be chosen? Simon commented that professors would be hired according to clear criteria. Johnson clarified that the question was regarding student selection, not hiring of faculty. Crabtree asserted that both selection of students and faculty as well as payment were part of the calculus of the program. Simon commented that the department debated for a year with a unanimous department affirmation. Garvey inquired about the percentage of the local members of the cohort—approximately 50%.

- a. EN497: Fernandez moved to approve the proposed course, EN497; Walker-Canton seconded the motion. Discussion continued. Johnson commented that the proposal looks sound both with content, theory and pedagogy. The proposal was approved unanimously.
- b. EN498: Fernandez moved to approved EN498; Walker-Canton seconded the motion. Ruffini commented that it seems seem like a hiring issue, but this is a minor objection. Johnson reiterated that EN498 is meant to offer more intense supervision. Crabtree added that the rationale was that some MFA students wanted a transcript with these experiences documented to make them more marketable. Previously, they did not have TA experience. With this current model the problem is alleviated; also

the pay is justified since they are qualified. Ruffini noted that a cadre of TAs sounds more detrimental than beneficial. Crabtree responded that 47 sections needed to be taught, far more than full-time faculty could fulfill; necessarily, some adjuncts would be required and we would want those who are well qualified. This would program would help in this regard. Johnson added that EN498 helped those applying for professorship of the practice. Walker-Canton supported EN498 and inquired whether the department considered this as part of the degree instead. Crabtree agreed; this would be a good question for a curriculum review. The motion passed with seven votes in favor, one vote opposed and two abstentions.

- c. EN206: Zhang moved to approve the motion and Garvey seconded the motion. Fernandez questioned the 200-level status, that this course would be interesting for the third course for the core as well. Garvey responded that as a 200-level survey course, it would be available to those students as well as majors. Crabtree elaborated that the EN100-level was thematically based, while 200-level is a genre-based course, which entails a deeper systematic engagement. Johnson mentioned that the literature caucus met precisely to decide this question and determined that the course should remain at the 200-level. EN206 passed unanimously.
- d. EN207: Ruffini moved to approve the motion and Fernandez seconded the motion. Johnson clarified the pre-requisites listed that any 100-level course would suffice. The motion passes unanimously.

### III. Masters in Public Administration Proposal

Rosivach asserted a point of order that, according to the journal of record, the head of the committee, Professor LeClair, should be the person fielding questions. Rosivach proposed the motion that discussion be tabled until a time when LeClair can attend; Ruffini seconded the motion. Some discussion ensued whether an information session with Profs. Perkins and Simon could continue. Crabtree agreed in principle with Rosivach that shepherding errors, not committee errors were the concern of NEASC. Johnson asked for the possibility to allow for informational questions or a presentation. Crabtree proposed not take action today and wait for presentation on the April 10, 2012 meeting. Perhaps ASCC could share major concerns or omissions. Three were offered: the marketing addendum is omitted; MPA150 syllabus is missing; entrance onto the governance structure of MPA is unclear. The motion passed to table the discussion with two votes against.

### IV. New Business

Crabtree gave a heads-up that some unresolved curriculum issues of BPS would be awaiting ASCC.

Lacey moves to adjourn; Peduti seconded to adjourn; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas Peduti