



UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (UEC) MEETING

June 21, 2013
10:00 am – B121
Abbotsford Campus

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: D. Alary, M. Bos-Chan, S. Fisher, N. Goad, S. Manu, S. Marsh, R. McLeod, S. Pattridge, E. Spalding, S. Xi
ABSENT: S. Bains, S. Brigden, W. Burton, R. Colwell, H. Comeau, V. Dvoracek, J. English, D. Francis, S. Hardman, J. Larsen, D. McGuire, L. Stagg, D. Waslewsky, J. White, A. Wiseman
GUESTS: S. Piper
RECORDER: A. Hoogendoorn

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1.1. MOTION:

To approve the agenda as presented.

S. Marsh/ M. Bos-Chan

2. APPROVAL OF UEC MINUTES

2.1. UEC draft minutes: May 24, 2013

MOTION:

To approve the draft minutes as presented.

R. McLeod/ S. Fisher

3. COURSE OUTLINES

The following courses are ready for publication following UEC approval.

3.1. Biology

Changes including prerequisites: BIO 111

MOTION:

To approve the Biology 111 course outline as presented.

S. Marsh/ R. McLeod

3.2. Social, Cultural, and Media Studies

Changes including prerequisites, calendar description, and learning outcomes:
SOC 475

Changes including title and synonymous courses: SOC 490

MOTION:

To approve the SOC 490 course outline as presented and the SOC 475 course outline as amended:

- Check off the transfer credit options as follows: No, Yes, No.
- Change the title from 'Sociology of Communities' to 'Communities, Difference, and Belonging'.

E. Spalding/ S. Fisher

3.3. Visual Arts

Changes including learning outcomes: VA 365/FILM 365/JRNL 365

MOTION:

To approve the Visual Arts course outlines as presented.

S. Fisher/ S. Marsh

4. PROGRAMS

4.1. Arts

Change to program: Bachelor of Arts (writing requirement)

Change to program: Bachelor of Fine Arts (writing requirement)

Change to program: Visual Arts diploma (writing requirement)

MOTION:

To approve the changes to the Bachelor of Arts writing requirement as presented, effective September 2013.

Motion tabled

The change to the Bachelor of Arts writing requirement would mean that students who receive an A in their English 12 high school class would not have to take ENGL 105. Some students could potentially graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree without taking a university writing specific course.

S. Fisher explained the benefits of this change. Research shows that English 12 grades are a good predictor of success in a university level writing course. Students who are unsure of what they would like to study would have more credits for exploration. Students are more successful at learning how to write when it's related to their major, and do a lot of writing in their other classes. Budget cuts mean that less sections of ENGL 105 will be offered in the future and this change would alleviate some of the demand for this course. Furthermore, Uvic implemented the same change five years ago, and have not experienced problems.

Concern was expressed about the types of evidence being presented. There was a request to include the research document(s) that are referenced in the agenda package. The research only refers to students in B.C. and fails to represent international students, as well as students outside of B.C. Also, there is discrepancy between the ways that teachers in B.C. mark. What one teacher

considers an 'A' may be considered a 'B' by another teacher. There was a concern that removing top tier students from this course could change the nature and focus of the course. ENGL 105 is a requirement for a lot of majors, so many students completing a BA would still have to take this course. If students switch to another program, they will have to go back and take ENGL 105. There was also concern that budget cuts were dictating this change.

There was a suggestion that perhaps students with an A in English 12 could instead take ENGL 108 or higher. This would give students more choice, while at the same time requiring them to complete a university writing specific course. In 2010, the maximum enrolment of ENGL 105 changed from 24 to 23. Perhaps if the class size went back to 24, budget concerns could be slightly alleviated. It is important to note that UEC does not approve class size.

Although opinions differed on this topic, the general consensus was that not enough research and information was provided to make a decision. It was pointed out that students are already registering for their classes, so making this change right now may not have much of an impact. The motion was tabled and will be discussed again, with more research present.

MOTION:

To approve the changes to the Bachelor of Fine Arts writing requirement as presented, effective September 2013.

E. Spalding/ M. Bos-Chan

CARRIED

ABSTENTIONS: 1

MOTION:

To approve the changes to the Visual Arts diploma writing requirements as presented, effective September 2013.

S. Marsh/ E. Spalding

CARRIED

ABSTENTIONS: 1

4.2. Geography

Discontinuation of program: Geography major Geographic Information Systems concentration

MOTION:

To approve the discontinuation of the Geography major Geographic Information Systems concentration, effective September 2013.

S. Marsh/ E. Spalding

5. OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1. Renewal of UEC Membership in 2014

A large amount of membership terms will be ending on July 31, 2014. There is concern that many members may leave at the same time. This could be problematic, as it could result in too many new members joining UEC at the same time. The years of ending memberships need to be more balanced.

In response to this concern, an email was sent to the UEC members with memberships ending on July 31, 2014, asking members if they would consider staying on for another term (two years), or extending their term for another year.

5.2. Admissions Subcommittee report

MOTION:

To approve the revised membership of the Admissions Subcommittee as presented: replacement of J. Croft (chair) with D. Francis (chair).

E. Spalding/ S. Fisher

5.3. Transfer Credit Subcommittee report

S. Pattridge, M. Bos-Chan, and P. Geller met with D. McGuire (Executive Director, UFV International). Transfer with private language training schools will no longer go through the Transfer Credit Subcommittee and will be negotiated in a different way.

5.4. Policy Subcommittee report

The Policy Subcommittee compiled and reviewed feedback on the Assignment of Course Credit policy (105) from various faculty councils. A couple of guiding principles were agreed upon, which will be used while developing a new policy. A new draft of the policy will be worked on over the summer and will be presented at the August or September UEC meeting.

5.5. Course Outline Subcommittee report

MOTION:

To approve the revised draft of the course outline, as presented.

This will be postponed until the following meeting.

Information was gathered from faculty councils and discussed. Further revisions have been made to the draft course outline.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1. Minor course changes (outlines will be available at www.ufv.ca/calendar/courseoutlines)

ANTH 268
EDUC 200, 300
ENGL 204, 205, 206, 207, 211, 212, 213, 214, 225, 228, 254, 255, 256, 270, 275, 301, 304, 306, 316, 319, 321, 325, 333, 336, 338, 339, 340, 341, 344, 348, 349, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 363, 368, 370, 374, 375, 380, 384, 490

ENGL 379/EDUC 379
LAS 200/SOC 200
SOC 245, 435
SOWK 225

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27am.