

Curriculum Committee Minutes - Oct 13, 2005

Present: Alisa Clapp-Itnyre, Kumara Jayasuriya, Robert Ramsey, Roberta Roswell, Walter Scott, Gregory Weber

Absent: Betsy Kirk, Kathleen Kreamelmeyer

I. Minutes: The minutes are approved for the two previous meetings on May 5 and September 29, 2005.

II. New course requests:

A. MATH L117, L118, L125, L126, L300

Kumara moved to conditionally approve MATH L117, L118, L125, L126, L300 on the condition of inserting on each new course form, in item 10, the statement, "This course is not distribution satisfying, nor does it satisfy the requirement for a laboratory science course." Roberta seconded. Motion passed.

Roberta Roswell will communicate the decision to Markus Pomper, author of the new course proposals.

B. Biotechnology courses

1. General concerns expressed, and responses:

a. Have the courses now been approved by the NSM Division? Yes.

b. The rationale for some of the courses is to support a new biotechnology degree which has not yet been approved, or even proposed formally. Would approval of these new courses be putting the cart before the horse?

There would be an advantage in offering the courses before the biotechnology degree. It would whet students' appetites for the new degree. Some of the courses would also function as electives for biology majors.

c. The course proposals lack course numbers and a signature approval form.

2. Course-specific issues:

- a. Introduction to Biotechnology: none.
 - b. Basic Laboratory Techniques: "MSDS" should be spelled out.
 - c. Introduction to Biochemistry: Should the title include the word "introduction," even though it has a prerequisite in the same area? Clarify whether the course is going to be required for the Biotechnology degree.
 - d. Bioinformatics: Is PERL the programming language? If so, should there be a prerequisite course in programming?
3. Walter Scott will communicate these concerns to Pam Connerly, author of the proposals.

Submitted by: Gregory Weber