Curriculum Committee Charges 2009-10

Clarify and update curriculum-related policies.

- Examine the minimum "C" requirement in the new general education program, including the minimum grade in courses used for distribution credits. There are unanswered questions about the minimum grade requirement, partly due to lack of clarity in the word choice used in descriptions, such as what exactly is considered the "core" in "core requirements" and "core curriculum." Also examine what constitutes "major" or "concentration" courses: only the courses within the discipline itself, or other courses required of majors? Does the minimum "C" grade apply to all courses within the discipline itself, or other courses required of majors? Clarifications should be brought to the Schools, with proposed revisions as needed. As needed, determine the will of School faculties on the issue of the minimum grade requirements. Propose revisions as necessary. One motive behind discussion and possible revisions: the minimum "C" may be preventing some students from graduating on time, even students with much higher than 2.0 overall GPAs.
- Update the Second Degrees policy in connection with additional credit hours, references to associate degrees, and titles (e.g., VCAA to EVCAA).
- Work with the Faculty Affairs Committee on the possibility of increasing School representation on the Curriculum Committee with a revision to the Bylaws.
- Develop guidelines for distinguishing between 100-200 and 300-400 level courses. This is important in evaluating transfer credit from two-year colleges and in degree requirements. No IU policy distinguishes between lower- and upper-division courses. The policy should list distinguishing features of upper-division courses. The new policy can be written so that it applies only to newly created courses, thus grandfathering existing courses.
- Update other curriculum-related policies as needed.