

Meeting Minutes
Program Review Committee
Macricostas School of Arts & Sciences

Thursday, October 12th, 2023 at 9:30AM in HI 107

Present: Michelle Brown, Forest Robertson, Stewart Dalton, Jess Kraybill, Cigdem Usekes, Kristin Giamanco, Brian Stankus, Nicholas Gallucci

I. Prior Minutes

1. Approval of September 14th meeting minutes (S Dalton/B Stankus) one abstention (C Usekes) 6/1
B Stankus asked for more detail about committee process in future minutes.

II. Announcements

1. Welcome Çiğdem Usekes

III. Old Business

1. ANT/ART /HON 3XX – New Course: No Place Like Home (Hegel-Cantarella) (UPDATED: CD2324025) – MSAS PRC suggested modifications from September meeting:
4 things that needed to be changed – all addressed sufficiency (B Stankus)
 - Remove the statement about cross-listing course with Honors (“HON 3xx”)
 - Providing explicit justification for 4-credit offering
 - Aligning course pre-requisites with ART department recommendations
 - Indicate frequencyC Hegel-Cantarella will send the updated document to B Stankus

Approved (S Dalton/J Kraybill) 7 for.

IV. New Business

1. CHE 1XX – New Course: General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry for Nursing Professionals (Prieto) (CD2324024)
 - F Robertson presented a motion to consider passing the proposal
 - 120 & 121 is reduced to a one semester offering for CHEM – combined all relevant topics in 120 & 121 into this one-semester course
 - The course will still address pharmacology, inorganic analysis
 - This meets the needs of nursing students who will go elsewhere if they have to take two CHEM classes
 - This proposal benefits the nursing department and serves to retain their students
 - K Giamanco suggested adding a description of laboratory activities in the course outline
 - F Robertson said he will add a topical outline for the laboratory activities
 - J Kraybill suggested adding a statement about the course rotation

This was approved (B Stankus/J Kraybill) 7/0

2. CED 130 – New Course: Workplace Professionalism for Career Success (K Lindenmayer) (CD2223099) –
3. CED 120 – New Course: The Employment Process: Skills and Strategies (Lindenmayer) (CD2223100)
4. CED 110 – New Course: Designing Your Life (Lindenmayer) (CD2223099)
 - The three courses were considered together
 - C Usekes did not support adding these courses because general education courses are being cut
 - K Lindenmayer said that students need these courses: taking these courses results in increased retention – “we have shown that these are keeping students here;” “helps students understand who they are”
 - M O’Neill argued that they were critically important for student wellbeing and transition to the workplace
 - Only those with specific training are qualified and prepared to teach these courses
 - C Usekes suggested that this content could be delivered in noncredit courses and workshops
 - J Kraybill suggested that students could take the courses for a certificate, rather than for academic credit that would contribute to the required 120 credit hours
 - N Gallucci said that Psychology recently added two courses pertaining to orientation to the major and professionalism
 - F Robertson said that Chemistry is knowledgeable about who hires Chemistry students: the faculty in the content areas should help students with employment; he asked why should students pay for courses if they have access to this content for free and that students already pay for this content with student activities fees
 - K Lindenmayer said that her office has data indicating that job placement and career readiness improve as a result of taking these courses
 - F Robertson remarked that “we embed career content in everything we do; it is in our fiber”
 - K Giamanco discussed differences in applying for jobs in sciences versus nonsciences
 - K Lindenmayer and M O’Neill responded to these considerations: these courses were seen to offer unique benefits for students; students have not accessed these services in significant numbers because they do not receive credit; student assessment was considered including the Odyssey plan
 - F Robertson asked why this information could not be embedded in the first-year orientation courses offered by departments
 - M O’Neill said that first-year students are not ready for these courses
 - There was additional discussion about the evidence that students were in need of these courses and the benefits of these courses
 - A motion to add all three courses to the curriculum was considered (B Stankus/J Kraybill) and did not pass (0 for, 5 against, 1 abstain)

5. By-laws discussion (Usekes) – The discussion this topic was postponed until the next meeting as this meeting extended until 11:00 AM.

Submitted by N Gallucci