Program Review Committee
Macricostas School of Arts & Sciences
March 20th, 2024 at 9:30AM in HI 107

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Michelle Brown, Stuart Dalton, Kristin Giamanco, Forest Robertson, Brian Stankus and Çiğdem Üsekes

Guests: Shahab Band, Carina Bandhauer and Gancho Ganchev

I.   **Prior Minutes**
1. Approval of February 14th meeting minutes

    Motion to approve: Stankus/Brown. Approved (4-0-1).

II. **Old Business**
1. ANT/SOC Major Revisions (Bandhauer) (CD2324065)

    Motion to approve: Stankus/Brown

    The Department of Social Sciences reviewed the total number of required credits for the recently modified ANT/SOC major and made further adjustments to the degree requirements. They also revised the four-year course rotation. With the curricular revisions, the students will receive professionalization through the now 4-credit SS 400.

    Unanimously approved (5-0-0).

2. By-laws discussion (Üsekes)

    Motion to approve: Brown/Stankus

    There were heated discussions about whether enough volunteers would come forward versus whether the current committee structure only allows participation from the larger departments in MSAS, leaving the smaller departments without representation on the school's curriculum committee.

    Motion carries (4-1-0) with the following friendly amendment: "A quorum shall consist of a majority of the filled membership seats."

III. **New Business**
1. Revision of CS 265 (Course title and topics) (Ganchev) (CD2324132)

    Motion to approve: Üsekes/Stankus

The Computer Science Department want the course to be a topics course. Dr. Robertson asked whether students who have already taken the course can take it again as a special topics course. Because of potential problems the students and the university can run into, the committee recommended discontinuing CS 265 and creating a new course instead. The new course language needs to include specifics about the course being repeatable and the repeat course policy. The course outline needs to be broadly defined as well so that it will fit all of the various topics that will be taught under this course. The committee also asked for a course rotation since this will be a new course proposal.

The other two proposals will need to be revised as well.

Motion fails (1-4-0).

2. Revision of CS Security Minor (Course selections) (Ganchev) (CD2324134):

   Motion to approve: Üsekes/Stankus

   Dean Brown raised the following questions: How are these changes going to increase the enrollment in this minor? And what is the rationale for revising a minor that has low enrollment? Dr. Ganchev says the minor will be more attractive with the new content. He adds that these are for two different majors and that the department wants to refresh the content in these minors and majors.

   Dr. Robertson raised the issue of having enough credits (18 minimum) in a minor. Right now, the minor is listed as requiring 12-13 credits, but if the prerequisites are included in the minor, the total number of credits would likely increase to 18.

   The committee also raised the following concerns: There are issues with the four-year plan (e.g., including MAT 170 and MAT 171, neither of which exists; changing CS 265 to CS 2XX; making the minor requirements a minimum of 18 credits; and cross-listing MIS 345 with JLA).

   Motion fails (0-5-0).

3. Revision of B.A. in Applied Computing (Course selections and content changes) (Ganchev) (CD2324133)

   Motion to approve: Stankus/Giamanco

   MAT 170 and MAT 171 should be removed from the proposal. Goal #3 should be removed. Typos and font changes are minor but should be addressed. CS 245 should be changed to CS 2XX. The references to FDS/SIS (CS 298/299) should be removed from the degree requirements. Perhaps a new advanced special topics course could be proposed instead.

   Motion fails (0-5-0).

4. BIO 4XX – New course: Molecular Mechanisms of Animal Development (Pinou) (CD2324095)

   Motion to approve: Stankus/Brown

   This course is part of the graduate BIO program that is offered in collaboration with SCSU. The committee suggested removing the course frequency from the course description.

   Approved unanimously (5-0-0).

5. BIO 5XX – New course: Computational Methods in Ecology and Evolution (Pinou) (CD2324118)

   Motion to approve: Brown/Stankus

   BIO 598 should be replaced in the course outline with BIO 5XX. Course description should include course prerequisites. Formatting errors should be addressed.

   Approved unanimously (5-0-0).

Submitted by:

Çiğdem Üsekes, Ph.D.