MINUTES

University Curriculum Committee for General Education
December 4, 2024
2:30 pm
Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/s/84229621673

Present: Aaron Ansell (presiding), Angela Anderson, Emmanuel Benitez, Stephen Biscotte, Kelly Coburn, Paul Deck, Anusha Dhungana, Dan Folescu, Aaron Goldstein, Mike Gordon, Corinne Guimont, Molly Hall, Marian Mollin, Annie Ronan, Nasim Schwab, Khanh Ngoc Tran, Stacy Vogt Yuan, Vincent Wang, Travis Webster

Absent with Notice:

Absent: Janet Hilder, Jason Malone, Modiu Olaguro

Guests: Jenni Gallagher, Meghan Madel, Jen Rainville

A. Ansell called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

2. Approval of or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of November 6, 2024.

A. Ansell noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Website: governance.vt.edu.

3. New Business

A. Study Abroad Course Proposal Review

ITAL 3954: Topics in Italian for Creative Practice for concept 6a (Critique and Practice in the Arts)

The committee is requesting additional information. They will re-review the proposal at the February meeting after receiving the information requested below:

- Provide reading list (and any other available supplementary materials)
- Provide more information on unit 3
- Clarify how long the students are spending on each unit

B. Full Course Proposal Review

NEUR 2074: Translational Neuroscience: From Research to Practice for concept 7 (concepts 1a and 10 were approved at the October meeting).

The committee unanimously approved NEUR 2074 for concept 7.

D. Pathways Decertification

ENGL 3144 (SOC 3144) (RLCL 3144): Language and Ethnicity in the United States (Key 4261) Discontinue alignment with Pathways 3 (Reasoning in the Social Sciences) Effective Spring 2025

E. Recertification Discussion

The committee continued discussion on whether a recertification process is needed, and if so, what it might look like. The following points of discussion were raised:

- Need to consider bandwidth required of faculty and staff.
- Need to have clear communication and instructions about the process, purpose, benefits, and challenges.
- Need to be clear that this isn't an effort to decertify courses; it's an effort to keep courses up-to-date.
- What are the expectations for recertification – can the department just submit the same proposal with no revisions?
- Why is time used as the metric? Could another method be used to trigger recertification?
- Should Courseleaf be the mechanism?
- Should supplemental materials be required (e.g., recent syllabi).

5. Subcommittee Reports

A. Advising

The advising subcommittee did not have a report.

B. Program Improvement

The program improvement subcommittee's update was included in agenda item 4E.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:39 pm.

Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher