

*******Approved*******
via e-mail (non-tenured faculty and student reps),
and at 10-15-08 meeting (tenured faculty)

Social Science Division Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2008

Faculty in Attendance: Pareena Lawrence (Chair), Donna Chollett, Farah Gilanshah, Jeff Ratliff-Crain, Leslie Meek, Dennis Stewart, Julie Pelletier, Sheri Breen, Paula O'Loughlin, Bert Ahern, Jennifer Deane, Tom Johnson, Steve Gross, Tom Gausman, Stephen Burks, Katherine Benson, Solomon Gashaw

Faculty excused: Marynel Ryan

Faculty on leave: Rothchild, Finzel, Bina, and Guyotte

Students in Attendance: Jared Walhowe, Matt Nelson, Sheila Nezhad, Kellcee Baker, Adam Olson

I. Announcements

Chair Pareena Lawrence called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm. Paula O'Loughlin made two announcements. The first regarding a forum titled "Economic Crisis and You." This will take place on September 23 at 7 pm in Science 1020. She asked that faculty encourage their students to attend. Second, there will be a lecture given by UMM alumnus Rachel Brand ('95). Rachel was the first UMM graduate to graduate from Harvard Law school. Brand is going to speak about her role in the Bush Administration.

Originally, the meeting agenda planned for Chris Butler to speak. Butler was unable to attend the meeting.

Lawrence reminded the discipline coordinators that their spring class schedules are due on Thursday at 4:00 pm. She also updated the faculty on the initiative that now requires UMM to pay for Faculty Toolkit software. The estimated cost for software for the campus is over \$5000. She requested the faculty to continue using the old software as long as possible. If they absolutely need the new software, they should contact Sharon in the division office. The last announcement called for nominations for the distinguished research and teaching award. Nominations of individuals should be emailed to Pareena Lawrence.

II. Approval of Minutes from September 17

There were a few changes to the minutes since they were emailed out. The excused faculty and those on leave were added. The Political Science discipline had a course incorrectly labeled. There was also a clarification in the section pertaining to Economics and Management. The minutes were approved with changes.

Note: The original order of the 9-22-08 agenda was changed slightly, with old business discussed first (Anthropology, Sociology, and Economics/ Management Curriculum changes).

III. Discussion of Sociology Changes

On the Form A, 5 courses were without general education designators. One of these courses was inactivated and the other 3 were labeled with an SS designator. These corrections were approved.

IV. Discussion of Anthropology Changes

There were two courses without general education designators. One was inactivated and the other received the SS designator. The rationale for the elimination of the Senior Seminar course was rewritten. It was thought that the rationale misrepresents the case as there are five subdisciplines in Anthropology and not three as suggested by the rationale. Possibly the elimination of the word “the” would mend this problem. The document actually says that only three subdisciplines are represented here at UMM and that was deemed sufficient. It was suggested that Anthropology offer different sections of their senior seminars in the three subfields similar to Psychology. However, this would lead to an elimination of elective courses. It was thought that the last statement of the rationale is the most significant one and should not cause others to question the discipline’s decision. The changes in the Anthropology curriculum were approved.

V. Discussion of Economics/Management Changes

The prerequisite of Stat 1601 or Stat 2601 was added to a Stephen Burks course. This prerequisite will be enforced. However, if the student wanted to enroll in the management class without having taken the prerequisite they could receive special permission from the instructor. Economics had a similar prerequisite change. The changes in both disciplines were approved.

VI. Discussion of Liberal Arts for the Human Services Curriculum

There were no changes in the number of required credits. There were a few deletions and additions in the elective courses. A CMR course was added along with new Archeology courses (ANTH), Human Resources II, and a Leadership course, the latter two in Management. A new course, Internship in the Helping Profession was added. Students are now required to take the Ethics course first in order to prepare them to work with vulnerable populations. Wording was also changed so it no longer reads that summer course/s are required. It now says that it is recommended. The curriculum changes were approved.

VII. Discussion of Women’s Studies Curriculum

The biggest change in this major is in the name of the major. It is proposed that the name be changed from Women’s Studies to Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies. This reflects the shift in the major’s emphasis, making it more broad and inclusive. It also reflects the trends in academia. The objectives of the major have been revised to reflect this shift in emphasis and content. The intro class has been changed to Intro to Gender, Women, and Sexuality. The electives section splits classes into two categories: those with a primary focus of gender, women and sexuality, and those with a partial content. In order to be given the label of partial content, a course must contain at least 30 percent gender, women, and sexuality content. On the multiple course revision form, the Feminist Theory course changed its designator. The directed study went from required to optional. The capstone course remains a 1 credit assessment course. The

changes in the minor are similar to those made to the major. The name change from Women's Studies to Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies was approved. The rest of the curriculum changes were also approved. There was one vote of abstention.

VII. Discussion of Social Science Curriculum

The social science major is dependent on every discipline in social science. Changes reflect changes in each discipline's minor. The required courses include Econ 1112 (Principles of Macroeconomics) and Econ 1951 (1 credit, Seminar for Social Science Majors). Econ 1951 was deemed not deep, therefore, the proposal was to replace Econ 1951 with Econ 1111 (Principles of Microeconomics). Originally, under quarters, Principles of Macroeconomics, Principles of Microeconomics, and Seminar for Social Science majors (in the economics curriculum) were all required in the Social Science Major. However, when the university went to a semester system the division couldn't justify making students take as many credits of economics as this translated to under semesters, with the change from 5 credit to 4 credit courses and 180 credits to 120 credit graduation requirement. However, the shift of other education courses now allows for the addition of Principles of Microeconomics and the dropping of Seminar for Social Science Majors. Some faculty present took issue with the fact that Economics contributes 2 classes to the requirements while every other discipline is only allowed 1. The reason for the change was that after examining the state requirements for secondary education licensure, Econ 1951 wasn't sufficient. It was clarified that this change was not a reaction to a request made by the Education discipline, but because the introductory course in economics is divided into two fields micro and macro with very different course content and approaches, it is impossible to have one course provide the necessary competency to students. It was added that the course in Microeconomics covers environmental issues as part of market externalities which is not covered in the macro course. A student representative noted that Microeconomics would be a more valuable topic for a high school teacher than Macroeconomics alone.

It was felt that Social Science is a neglected major and decisions regarding that major should be made by a collection of all discipline coordinators. There needs to be a broader discussion of these changes. The core of the major is determined by the state requirements and the concentrations reflect minors. It was wondered how other universities handle this issue. UMD only requires 1 of 3 possible economics courses. It was commented that currently the major only requires taking US History, and no World History. This was a concern to some. There was a suggestion that if Economics can add Microeconomics than History should be able to add World History. The trading of classes was deemed a bad idea. Many of the faculty wanted to hold off changing the major until all disciplines can review state standards and decide if their courses are fulfilling requirements. A vote was taken to delete Econ 1951 and replace it with Principles of Microeconomics. There were 10 in favor, 10 opposed, and 1 abstention. Lacking a majority, the motion failed. Therefore only Econ 1112 and Econ 1951 will remain as required courses of the Social Science major. The other major changes were approved.

The next division meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2008, and is open to tenured faculty only. This meeting will be the discussion of probationary faculty: Jennifer Deane, Marynel Ryan, Sheri Breen, Heather Peters, and Rebecca Dean. The Promotion and Tenure files will be available on October 6th.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.