Discovery Committee Minutes, November 4, 2015 - Final

Present: Barb White, Amy Oliva, Katherine Aydelott, Norma Bazylinski, Thomas Birch, Dan Carchidi, Andy Colby, J. Matthew Davis, Todd DeMitchell, Wayne Fagerberg (via email), Valentini Kalargyrou, Justin Poisson, Jason Sokol, Gregory McMahon, Jerry Marx

Absent: Mary Rhiel, Rosemary Caron

The Committee took the following action:

Minutes

Motion: Katherine Aydelott moved and Todd DeMitchell seconded approval of Minutes from 10-21-15. Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0; Abs: 1. Motion passed. Minutes approved.

Course Review

CEPS
CHEM 444O – The Story of Oxygen (PS/INQ)
Motion: Valentini Kalargyrou moved and Gregory McMahon seconded to approve PS category. Vote: Yes: 8; No: 0; Abs: 0. Motion passed. PS category approved.
Motion: Valentini Kalargyrou moved and Gregory McMahon seconded to approve INQ status with stipulation. Vote: Yes: 7; No: 1; Abs: 0. Motion passed. INQ approved with stipulation: there needs to be a more explicit description on the INQ form and the syllabus of how students are asked to develop their own questions for self-directed learning.

CHHS & PCBE
OT 595/HMGT 598 – Happy and Healthy at Work: Promoting wellness, diversity, and inclusion – (SS/INQ; Co-listed HHS AND PAUL)
Motion: Jason Sokol moved and Katherine Aydelott seconded to approve for SS category. Vote: Yes: 7; No: 0; Abs: 1. Motion passed. SS category approved.
Motion: Matthew Davis moved and Gregory McMahon seconded to approve INQ status with stipulation. Vote: Yes: 6; No: 1; Abs: 1. Motion passed. INQ approved with stipulation: there needs to be a more explicit description on the INQ form and the syllabus of how students will be encouraged to develop their own questions for self-directed learning.

Student Petitions

1. Petition to allow MATH 418 to fulfill QR requirement due to documented misadvising. Vote: 7 yes; 0 no; 0 abs. Petition approved. (abcola10212015)

2. Petition asking for UVM course ENVS 001 Intro to Environmental Studies to fulfill ETS requirement. Vote: 7 yes; 0 no; 0 abs. Petition approved. (hwcola110315)

3. Petition asking for PBIO 412 to fulfill INQ due to documented department advising sheet error. Vote: 7 Yes; 0 no; 0 abs. Petition approved. (nbcolsao429-110415)

Other Items

David Richman and Barb White went to the Faculty Senate. The Senate had no recommendations except they want to deliberate the entire report. Senators are looking for input from departments and this will be revisited at beginning of December. They are vigilant about quality. The Discovery Committee will be charged with some of the items in the report like revisiting categories and having more agency to monitor courses over time. There are three options to reconfiguring the categories. One option is to keep the 8 categories currently in place, and the other options are to reconfigure the classifications to either 6 or 4 categories. The Senators are expected to have discussions with their
departments. Faculty should list their concerns, possible implications of the changes and recommendations and ensure their Senator carries them forward. All tenured faculty can attend the meetings.

The Discovery Committee has been named as the review body for the new Dual Major in Sustainability. The Discovery Committee would like more input and some guidelines from the Senate, regarding these new responsibilities. Barb White agreed to speak to Deb Kinghorn on this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 1:28pm.
Submitted by Renate Jurden