

MINUTES  
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES  
October 13, 2014  
230 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, 3:00 PM

Present: J. Arthur; G. Chandler-Smith; C.; C. Clemenz for R. Sumichrast; A. Dickow; L. Geyer; M. Hajj; S. Hirt; R. Holloway; A. Knoblauch; G. Long for L.N. Chang; M. Lucht for E. Spiller; B. Martin; S. Martin (Chair); A. Schoka; J. Sible; A. Smith; D. Smith; S. Sumner for Alan Grant; D. Stauffer; D. Tewari; E. Westman for R. Benson; G. Yee; A. Zink-Sharp.

Absent with Notification: M. Finn; G. Kirk; S. Martin; Z. Montgomery

Absent without Notification: C. Clarke; T. Meyer; C. Schwing

Visitors: S. Armstrong; W. Ashton; G. Costello; G. Kinder

**Call to Order and Announcements**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Stephen Martin, Chair.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

**Announcement of Approval and Posting of Minutes**

Stephen Martin announced the Sept. 22, 2014 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar's website [http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/2014-2015/CUSP\\_Minutes\\_September\\_22\\_2014\\_Meeting.pdf](http://www.registrar.vt.edu/documents/governance/2014-2015/CUSP_Minutes_September_22_2014_Meeting.pdf)

**Old Business**

Resolution 2014-15.E, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Literature and Language, in Bachelor of Arts in English*, Second Reading

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2014-15.E, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Literature and Language, in Bachelor of Arts in English*. First effective date to declare major: Spring 2015. First effective date to graduate: Spring 2016.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 2014-15.F, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Creative Writing, in Bachelor of Arts in English*, Second Reading

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2014-15.F, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Creative Writing, in Bachelor of Arts in English*. First effective date to declare major: Spring 2015. First date to graduate: Spring 2016.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 2014-15.G, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Professional and Technical Writing, in Bachelor of Arts in English*, Second Reading

The motion was made and seconded to present for second reading Resolution 2014-15.G, *Resolution to Approve New Major, Professional and Technical Writing, in Bachelor of Arts in English*. First effective date to declare degree: Spring 2015. First effective date to graduate: Spring 2016.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **New Business**

### **Reports and Minutes from Commission Committees/Sub-Committees**

#### **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

Gena Chandler-Smith announced the report of the University Curriculum Committee meeting of September 26, 2014 was approved electronically Oct. 3, 2014.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report of Sept. 26, 2014.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **UCC Report – September 26, 2014**

**For “First and Second Reading”  
Unanimous Approval**

<b>Courses</b>
----------------

**New:**

**Spring 2015**

## **College of Engineering**

CEE 4384 Coastal Engineering (CM-1809)

## **College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences**

RUS 1114 Accelerated Elementary Russian (CM-1836)

TA 1004 (MUS 1004) School of Performing Arts First Year Experience (CM-1841)

### **Fall 2015**

#### **College of Agriculture and Life Science**

BCHM 1014 Biochemistry First Year Experience (CM-1833)

### **Revised:**

#### **Spring 2015**

#### **Pamplin College of Business**

MGT 3444 Multicultural Diversity in Organizations (CM-1816)

### **University Commencement Committee**

Candice Clemenz presented the minutes of the University Commencement Committee meeting of Sept. 3, 2014. Motion was made and seconded to accept the University Commencement Committee minutes of Sept. 3, 2014. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Other Business**

Deborah Smith and Alexander Dickow, CUSP Faculty Senate representatives, presented a resolution from Faculty Senate that outlines concerns related to the proposed changes to the Curriculum for Liberal Education (CLE)/General Education. A Faculty Senate resolution (Dated: September 16, 2014) was read aloud.

Faculty Senate representatives facilitated further discussion related to the following topic areas:

- Faculty Senate is pleased to see that UCCLC has positively responded to the requests of Faculty Senate
- Separation of Social Sciences and Humanities. Presented that concern has been addressed by subsequent separation of the two disciplines

- Simplification of Learning Outcomes language.
- Other discussion points presented by Faculty Senate representatives:
  - Impact on Academic Advising
  - Impact on Departmental Resource Assessment
  - Clarification as to English vs. Foreign Language Learning Outcome in Discourse - discourse should address writing
  - Clarification on number of total hours in CLE and impact on checksheets/time to graduation
  - CLE to Pathways implementation/transition plan
  - Expand faculty involvement

Subsequent discussion by commission included:

- Background for reasoning behind and timeline of revisions to general education
  - University effort as a result of student input
  - Concept provides depth and breadth
  - Concept develops students as “engaged learners”
  - Better learning outcomes assessment
  - Promotes interdisciplinary educational experience
- Outline of the overall timeline and scope of the CLE review
- Background provided related to meetings with colleges and departments, seeking their involvement, support and training on the CLE change process
- Potential for improved degree audit process to assist in clarification of requirements and improved student information
- Discussed inclusion of foreign language in discourse learning outcomes
- Relationship of current capstone courses to proposed CLE
- Discussion related to new Pathways minors in proposed CLE
- Chair Steve Martin presented the opportunity for further discussion Oct. 27, 2014 (next schedule CUSP meeting)

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary S. Kinder  
Office of the University Registrar