Rhode Island College Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Minutes for the Meeting of

19 December 2021

Online Zoom due to Coronavirus

<https://ri-college.zoom.us/j/8688089557?pwd=V3lZY3djbHJDWjVGRWdRQjNpSlBwUT09>

Meeting ID: 868 808 9557 Passcode: 1UzmdiSA

**Present**: Abbotson, S. (Chair); Basu, S.; Borgerding, T.; Diem, J.; Dixon, S.; Feinberg, N.; Galvez, A.; Griffin, A.; Hewins, D.; Masters, C.; McLaughlin, C. (Secretary); Rawson, G.; Simson, E. (Dean); Shadoian, H. (for Tate, H.); Weinstein, T.;

**Student Representatives:**

**Absent:**

**Excused:** Mukherjee, S.; Zornado, J. (COGE); Burke, J.; Card, J.

**Guest:** Tamecka Hardemon

1. Call to Order: 2:04 EST
2. Motion to Approve the Minutes for the Meeting of 19 Nov. 2021 (Hewins/Griffin)

***Action:*** Approved with one abstention

1. Report of the Chair

* Executive UCC took a look at the Manual and identified several clearly outdated sections. Some of the “reporting” discrepancies will be held until the “faculty intranet” site is functioning, some outdated references can simply be edited, as will the 4.2 Information about the Preparation of Proposals––to cover the electronic submission process we have adopted, and other updates made to the proposal form since this section was last updated. Several of the appendices appear to be fairly old/outdated, and are too much to do all at once, but we shall start by focusing on Appendix V Policy on Credit by Proficiency Exam, Appendix VI Policies Governing Off-Campus and Special Format Courses, Appendix VII Policy on the Administration of Interdisciplinary Courses and Appendix IX-A Mathematics Competency Requirement. We are contacting those we feel are most familiar with their content to revise these sections for us to approve.
* Art department is creating separate Academic Rhode Maps for each of their eight concentrations to make it easier for students to follow, rather than have just the one map to cover them all.

***Discussion:*** Sue approved the proliferation of RMs for ART to make scheduling easier for students.

* We are adding the additional notification of both Financial Aid and Institutional Research once proposals have been fully approved.

***Discussion:*** Alexis Renae (Provost Executive Assistant) sends notification of the final approvals from the President of all UCC transactions to the proposers (originators) and relevant departments on campus; i.e. The Records Office would receive notification of course changes and developments that might impact transfer processes. Other offices that should also be informed (especially when the proposals might affect transfers/CIP numbers) and so we are adding to the list are Institutional Research and Financial Aid

1. Annual Reports

* Student Designed Majors

Full Report can be found at: https://www.ric.edu/documents/sdm-annual-report-2021

***Discussion:***

* SDMs is morphing into a completion program for students who have significant credits (120+ in some cases) but for one reason or another are not finishing in their program.
* Their program and student agree to allow them this course work to graduate.
* 6 SDMs were approved this year
* 3 Social services and 3 Education
* All meetings were virtual

*Question* – Is there a concern that the Social Services “major” being used by SDM night overlap/interfere with the BPS concentration in Social Services? Ans.– The SDM caters to students who are currently enrolled and need to graduate, and while the “Social Services” name will be in common, SDM is not awarding a BPS which will differentiate the degrees; the BPS serves a different group of students and its requirements are different.

1. Monthly Reports (No Writing Board this year)

* COGE full report @: https://www.ric.edu/documents/ucc-report-december-2021
* Recommended that the Provost create an ad hoc Gen Ed committee for the spring
* Chairs, directors and deans will be consulted to help select committee members
* Approved BPS course that will be voted on today
* COGE Chair has meet with the college's MOU committee on assessment and faculty compensation.
* The college's Assessment coordinator, Tanni Chaudhuri, convened a meeting of the ad hoc FAS Assessment subcommittee in order to plan for assessment of FAS and General Education as soon as contractual issues related to assessment have been settled.

1. New Business

*Global Studies/History*

***Motion to Bundle and Approve 21-22-008 & 21-22-015*** (Borgerding/Simpson)

* 21-22-008 Approve revisions to the Global Studies major and minor programs to allow for greater flexibility and less of an emphasis on just History aspects. GLOB 365 The Atlantic World will be deleted as a requirement (and from the catalog) in both and the distribution categories are being readjusted. Several new courses will be added and others deleted from the program, and a new “distribution” category in Art, Literature, and Communication will be added. The Major will go down from 50-56 credits to 43-46, and the Minor go from 22-23 to 21-23 credits.

***Discussion:*** #008 requests approval for revisions to the Global Studies major and minor programs to allow for greater flexibility and less of an emphasis on Historical aspects. GLOB 365 will be deleted as a requirement (and from the catalog) in both programs while HIST 204 Global History Since 1500 will be added, and the distribution categories are being readjusted. A new “distribution” category in Art, Literature, and Communication will be added. The Major will be reduced from 50-56 credits to 43-46, and the Minor go down from 22-23 to 21-23 credits.

* 21-22-015 Approve revisions to HIST 204 Global History Since 1500, to reduce it from 4 to 3 credits in line with other History courses, and revise the prerequisite along the same lines. This course will be required in the Global Studies major and minor and so this action will reduce credits in those by one. This course should also now be included in the HIST Category C for HIST majors as a required elective—no change in total credits. These changes can make it easier to earn a double major.

*Question* - What is the rule to restrict credits to 40 credits? Ans. -- There are some programs that don’t meet the 40 credit cap. Some Gen Ed courses are often double counted. In the case of the revised Global Studies one of the required courses is a Gen. Ed. (GEOG 200 is an SB) so as that will double count it effectively keeps the total credits to a possible 39.

***Action: Unanimously Approved***

*English*

***Motion to Approve 21-22-014*** (Hewins/Basu)

* 21-22-014 Approve the revision of title of ENGL 307 to become ENGL 340 Studies in Modernist or Contemporary Literature, and update the description to reflect this. This is combining the original ENGL 307 Studies in Modernist Literature with ENGL 308 Studies in Contemporary Literature courses to provide more flexibility. ENGL 308 can then be deleted from the catalog.

***Discussion:*** #014 requests the approval for the revision to the title of ENGL 307 to read, *Studies in Modernist or Contemporary Literature*, update the course description to reflect this change. The ENGL 307 Studies in Modernist Literature will combine content from ENGL 308 Studies in Contemporary Literature as a means to provide more flexibility for students. 307 & 308 both satisfy the same program requirements and could be repeated with a change in topic, so this should cause no confusion on transcripts, but will allow the course to be offered according to NECHE guidelines. ENGL 308 can then be deleted from the catalog.

***Action: Unanimously Approved***

*Global Studies/History*

***(See above) 21-22-008 & 21-22-015 Bundled***

*Bachelors of Professional Studies*

***Motion to Approve 21-22-016*** (Feinberg/Basu)

* 21-22-016 Approve the addition of one credit to the new BPS 100 Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Portfolio Development to make it a two credit course prior to the BPS programs’ launch in Spring 2022; thus we need to allow this to become effective for that semester. Since this course is part of the General Education requirement (a mix of fixed courses and electives that totals 40 credits), it has been approved by COGE, but this will not raise the total credit as it simply reduces the elective Gen Ed. credits from the former 4-5, to the more manageable 3-4 (which would only necessitate one more course).

***Discussion:*** #016 requests approval for the addition of one credit to the new BPS 100 Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Portfolio Development to make it a two credit course. BPS programs’ will launch in spring 2022; this will become effective for that semester. Since this course is has been approved by COGE. It will not raise the total credits, but reduces the elective Gen Ed. credits to 3-4.

*Question: How is BPS 100 being graded and will it influence GPA?* The course will be graded SU and will not impact GPA.

*How will proficiency, skills mastery and certifications be evaluated?* Best Practices will be used from CAEL (RIC is a Member). There will be in-house evaluation.

Current Social Services concentration can accommodate 30 students but needed 10 to run; current cohort is 13 (. Organizational Leadership concentration will launch in the Fall.

***Action: Approved*** - 2 Nay & 2 Abstention

1. Any Other Business

UCC

***Motion to Approve Amendment to Proposal Form*** (Galvez/Hewins)

* Approve the addition to the UCC proposal form of a section that requires the proposer to assess the proposal’s effect on any of our transfer agreements—and specify what will need to be updated. Once a point person on transfer issues has been appointed they will in future get automatic notification of proposals that are fully approved.
* Update the grading section on our proposal form and in the UCC Manual.

***Discussion:*** This proposal requests the addition of information in a new *Section A6.B* that describes any impacts on transfer agreements. The proposer would indicate if a change in courses, programs, etc. will impact transfer agreements. This section will serve as notice of changes and aid in creating a record for changes and can then be passed on to college departments or a point person who would handle these transactions.

*Question: Do we have data that shows the 2+2, JAA programs, and transfer agreements actually benefit RIC? Do these agreements actually bring students to RIC?*

*Answer: Where is this data kept? We don’t track, so it is unlikely that we will understand what motivation a student has to come to RIC. We have data that shows who graduates with JAA.*

*No data for 2+2. Such information would be useful; faculty could use more information on transfers and how these affect enrollments, as well as the cost benefits.*

*Are we encouraging students to do more hours away from work? This is a discussion we should take up in the future.*

*Some 2+2 students discover that it may be five semesters to graduate because of the structure of programs at RIC. They want to graduate, so they search for programs that will meet their needs.*

***Action: Unanimously Approved***

Checking in on visibility of WID statements, Academic Rhode Maps and Program outcomes/learning goals for every program. Also current accuracy of JAA and 2+2 agreements.

NOTE: Due to current uncertainty as to who is currently tracking any of these and making sure they get updated, just let us know initially if they are correct or not, so we at least have a list of what needs to be done. Also, if you hear of anyone having created a new 2+2, tell them to hold on to it for the time being until we work out who will be the point person on these. Also, be sure that the counterpart department chair at CCRI has been consulted on these agreements so that we are sure they are accurate from both sides.

**Constituencies: (Nov. feedback in red, Dec. in Green)**

Galvez: Art, Communication, Film Studies ALL THERE FOR ALL.

Borgerding: Music, Theatre, and Dance will check for next meeting

Abbotson: English (All three concentrations have own WID and ARMs, but share the same program/learning goals, though they are somewhat different in nature—CW is working on their own goals), Modern Lang. (WID and GOALS there, but ARM for Academic Rhode Map for Concentration in Latin American Studies Missing—e-mail sent to ask why as one does exist), Liberal Studies (all there), Africana Studies (all there).

Rawson: History, Philosophy, Global Studies, Gender and Women’s Studies. ALL THERE FOR ALL.

Weinstein: Psychology, Anthropology, Environmental Studies, Chemical Dependency/Addiction. ALL THERE FOR ALL.

Dixon: Political Science, Geography, Public Admin, Sociology, Justice Studies. ALL THERE FOR ALL.

Hewins: Biology (all there), Medical Imaging (missing WID), Health Sciences (missing WID).

Burke: Computer Science and Information Systems, Math, Physics, Chemistry: ALL THERE FOR THESE FOUR. Data Science. (missing WID),

Feinberg: Early Childhood, Elementary Ed., and Special Ed. e-mails sent, waiting to hear back.

Mukherjee: CPHP, Health and Physical Ed., Wellness and Exercise Science ALL THERE FOR ALL.

McLaughlin: Secondary Ed., K-12 Education—Tech, Art, Music, and World Languages, and Youth Development (all there). Being looked into-Aside from YDEV other have missing WID and Program goals/learning outcomes.

Basu: Accounting, Finance, Economics, HCA, Management, Marketing ALL THERE FOR ALL.

Griffin: Nursing ALL THERE.

Diem: Social Work ALL THERE.

**Current JAA/ 2+2 (P) plans in place:**

[**https://www.ritransfers.org/program-transfer-plans-2/**](https://www.ritransfers.org/program-transfer-plans-2/) **(2018-2019 catalog)**

[**https://www.ritransfers.org/jaa-ric/**](https://www.ritransfers.org/jaa-ric/) **(dated 2018-2019)**

Galvez: Communication (P/JAA) Look fine.

Borgerding:Theatre (JAA) Looks okay.

Abbotson: English (JAA) The JAA for English posted at RItransfers.org is not correct as it contains old course numbers no longer used, an updated version was sent in but for some reason not used and the old one was simply recycled; Modern Lang.(JAA) correct.

Rawson: History (JAA)  The JAA for History posted at RItransfers.org is no longer correct, because the History major here was revised in 2019, and (2) History has a new 2+2 plan, but Elisa doesn't have it: she says Holly Shadoian does, but it is not on the website. Follow up reveals Holly does not have this, Sue will follow up with other members of the HIST department; Philosophy (JAA) correct.

Weinstein: Psychology (P/JAA); Environmental Studies (P) Look correct. ANTH is developing one.

Dixon: Political Science (JAA); Public Admin (P); Sociology (P/JAA); Justice Studies (P/JAA) Report next meeting.

Hewins: Biology (P/JAA—BA&BS) Biology is only a BS, no BA.; Health Sciences (P) CCRI courses need to be updated; Chemistry (JAA—only a BA, no BS) Working on 2+2 for Chemistry BA and BS, and Physics 2+2.

Burke: Computer Science (JAA—have both BA and BS); Computer Information Systems (P/JAA); Math (JAA) --need to check the last two?

Basu: Accounting (P/JAA) waiting to hear back; Finance (P/JAA) Both fine; Economics (P/JAA) Both fine; HCA (P) waiting to hear back; Management (P/JAA); Marketing (P/JAA)—Julie Urda sent UCC list of needed revisions for MGT and MKT.

Diem: Social Work (P/JAA) Look fine.

***Motion to adjourn:*** Griffin/Masters and Committee - 3:28

Respectfully submitted by: Charlie McLaughlin