Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2010

Curriculum Committee

Subcommittee of the Academic Senate

Present: Kim O’Gara, Christine Li, Rebecca Beal, A. Joe Ritchie, Paul Smith, Joanna Pinckney, Kristie Kuhn, Sara McKinnon, Becky Brown, Chris Schultz, Cari Torres

Absent: Letta Hlavachek, Rinetta Early

Discussion Topics:

1. The Committee members agreed to meet on December 3d, from 10:00 to 2:00 to conduct an extended course review session. Lunch will be provided.
2. Derek Wilson offered to join the committee to assist with the review.
3. UDWC reviewed and approved the courses sent forward.
4. The Committee discussed the changes proposed in the courses and degree in the Environmental Landscaping program. Concerns centered on the degree SOL’s, the authorship of the course revisions [which must be submitted by a faculty member], and a strong concern that the range of changes to the program would negatively affect a current student’s ability to complete a degree. Chris agreed to contact Dean Schwarsky and clarify the committee’s concerns. Both the revised courses and the degree will be held until these issues have been resolved.
5. The issue of Dean’s changing course outlines against the wishes of the authoring faculty was raised. Dean Arnold changed wording on and outline and apparently did not sign the form. This is inappropriate. Course revisions are the domain of the faculty and the signature of the Dean is to indicate that the dean has seen the outline; it is not an approval of the revisions. Chris will contact Dr. Arnold to discuss the matter.
6. The committee discussed a Senate action to create a Distinct Directed Grant to review the role and potential value of reintroducing Non-credit courses to support various areas of learning. This would have a significant impact on the curriculum development process and could better serve our student population.
7. Courses approved at this meeting will be noted in the minutes of the December 3, meeting.