

## College Curriculum Committee

## Minutes Taking from Meeting December, 2013

**Present:** Stuart Blythe, Terence Gibson, Gary Hoppenstand (*ex officio*), Robert McCann, Jason Merrill, Debra Nails (chair), Jovon Potter (*ex officio*), Anne Violin-Wigent, Beth Judge (*ex officio*)

**Apologies:** Alison Dobbins, Rose Fox, Gretel Van Wieren, Ned Watts

**Guests:** Todd Hedrick, Ok-Sook Park, Catherine Ryu

**Convended:** 3:15pm, 321 Linton Hall by Debra nails

**Adjourned:** 4:33 pm

CCC Member Minutes taken by Debra Nails

**Preliminaries:** Nails called the meeting to order at 3:15. The body approved a request that the agenda be amended to accommodate the committee's guests as the first business item.

**Curricular request from the Department of Linguistics and Languages:** Minor in Korean Studies

Drs. Park and Ryu were invited to give an overview of their proposal before taking questions from the committee. Dr. Park presented information on the importance of a strong Korean language program, compared MSU's growing program to those of other CIC institutions with majors/minors, and spoke of the numerous successes of MSU's students. Dr. Ryu spoke of the history of Korean studies at MSU; about her role in Korean culture courses and involvement in a budding consortium of universities offering real-time enrichment courses taught by specialists; and about the realities of language instruction at universities in the CIC, including the observation that no CIC major or minor program in Korean studies includes a tenure-system native speaker of Korean. She emphasized that a strategy of the proposal is to persuade MSU to make a tenure line available by putting the minor in place.

The committee questioned the prudence of full-time, fixed-term appointments generally in a Research I university and, specifically, the establishment of a new minor that would depend on the continued employment of a single native speaker of Korean whose contract is fixed-term (Dr. Park's appointment is a three-year contract). The committee also pointed out that the strategy of developing formal programs prior to securing tenure-system faculty lines is one that has not proved successful at MSU in the past. It asked about contingency plans for the minor in the event that Dr. Park's appointment were not continued for any reason.

Some time was spent suggesting means by which the compelling proposal could be improved in ways not merely cosmetic that would increase the possibility that it would proceed through other committees more smoothly. The committee also offered its assistance to Drs. Park and Ryu in their recasting of the proposal.

When the guests had been thanked and left, the committee discussed its possible actions. The UCC does not read the minutes of the CCC. A letter from the chair of the CCC to the chair of the UCC would probably scuttle the proposal. To disapprove the proposal would imply that the proposal's pedagogical aims lacked the support of the committee, though it would leave open the possibility of a later proposal. Approval of the proposal would imply that the CCC had not performed due diligence with respect to the curriculum; and the committee agreed that the proposal could not be approved in its current form. The body unanimously passed a motion to approve the Korean studies minor proposal conditionally: the proposal would be rewritten in light of suggestions and resubmitted to the CCC during spring semester.

**UCC report:** Ned Watts reported by email that the UCC, at its most recent meeting, had approved the CCC items on its agenda.

**Minutes of the 21 November 2013 meeting:** Approved without amendment.

**Curricular request from the Department of English for a change to the B.A. degree:** The committee approved the proposal subject to a correction on p. 4, at the bottom of section (3), ENG 451 and ENG 452 should be FLM 451 and FLM 452, respectively.

**Other Business:** In response to a request for explicit committee procedures, Hoppenstand suggested a PowerPoint on the Registrar's website (Potter will provide the URL) but said that procedures are normally communicated to new members by veteran members. He opined that committing procedures to writing might be counterproductive, reducing the flexibility of the committee's perceived actions. Potter said Kirk Domer is assisting her with learning more about the matters the CCC addresses so that departments can receive help from her in advance and thus submit proposals with fewer errors. She is now preparing to edit a manual that could be helpful to that end and will provide committee members with a scanned copy of the original from which she is working.

Judge asked that faculty be made more aware of the restrictions on granting the honors option: departments have grade-point requirements, so faculty should not request, and chairs should not approve, requests for the honors option if the minimum grade has not been earned.

Nails introduced Hedrick, who will replace her during spring semester while she has a teaching conflict. Thanks for the semester's committee work were delivered all around.