

**Curricular Affairs Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes for Mon., March 9, 2015 – 1-2 p.m. KAYAK RM.**

Present: Brian Cook, Chair; Ken Abramowicz; Casey Byrne; Libby Eddy; Doug Goering; Cathy Hanks; Cindy Hardy; Jayne Harvie; Joan Hornig; Stacey Howdeshell; Dennis Moser; Rainer Newberry; Caty Oehring; Todd Radenbaugh (remote); Holly Sherouse.

**I. Approve minutes from Feb. 23 meeting**

The minutes for February 23 were approved as submitted.

**II. Catalog Changes (Recommended by Registrar Libby Eddy)**

NOTE: Deletions are in [[double brackets]]; additions are **ALL CAPS, BOLD**.

PAGE 86 General University Requirements

You must earn at least 9 semester **[[hours]] CREDITS AT THE 100 LEVEL OR ABOVE** for an occupational endorsement.

PAGE 94 General University Requirements

You must earn at least 30 semester **[[hours]] CREDITS** for a certificate and 60 semester **[[hours]]**

regulations and do not to go further to Administrative Committee or Faculty Senate.

### **III. New business**

<b>A. <u>Definition of Credit Hour – Discussion item</u></b>
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- 1. University regulations on the definition for one credit hour changed in August 2014. The Provost is currently reviewing the change to offer her view on the impact to UAF. Senate**



UAF undergraduates will demonstrate effective communication when they are able to:

- x Explain disciplinary content using a variety of modes of communication.
- x Communicate to audiences



Courses with suffixes O or W meet upper division writing intensive or oral communication intensive course requirements for the baccalaureate core FOR STUDENTS UNDER CATALOGS PRIOR TO FALL 2016

And page 249, under Course Credits:

O—Oral Communication Intensive Course

W—Writing Intensive Course

Courses meeting upper division writing and oral communication intensive requirements for the baccalaureate core are identified in the course description section of the catalog with the suffixes O and W FOR STUDENTS UNDER CATALOGS PRIOR TO FALL 2016

Two courses designated O/2 are required to complete the oral communication intensive requirement.

The committee discussed the draft motion at length. Doug G. reported that Dean's Council reception to the idea that departments develop and assess individual Communications degree requirement plans was in the "positive - lukewarm" range. It had a similar reception at the CEM department chairs' meeting. Overall, the chairs liked the flexibility it allows. No major concerns were expressed by either group that Doug spoke with.

Most of the discussion centered around the rationale item #5 and how long Os and Ws will remain in place. Confusion for newer students might be lessened if the Os and Ws were removed in a shorter time-frame (say 2-3 years rather than 7) and the Registrar's Office could code them into DegreeWorks to handle students graduating under older catalogs. Other specific wording changes were suggested for #5. The committee agreed that 7 years could be reduced to "at least 3 years."

It was also agreed that a department does no harm if the status quo

plans. Brian will take these concerns and issues back to the Core Review Committee.

Item B (below) was postponed until the next meeting (March 23) due to time constraints.

<b>B. Motion to replace PHC courses</b>
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DRAFT MOTION:

The Faculty Senate moves to replace the current Perspectives on the Human Condition (PHC) courses in the Core Curriculum with pre-approved lists of courses from which students can select to fulfill General Education Requirements in humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Students will need to complete 15 total credits: 3 credits in arts, 3 credits in humanities, 6 credits in social sciences, and 3 credits from an additional course in any one of the three areas.

This change will go towards fulfilling Learning Outcome 1 of the learning outcomes adopted by Faculty Senate in 2011: Build knowledge of Human Institutions, Social Processes, and

- At least 6 credits in the social sciences from 2 diff