Liberal Arts
Curriculum Committee Meeting Report
23 January 2009

Members Present: Richard Cebula, Jose da Cruz, Mark Finlay, Jim Todesca, Teresa Winterhalter, Steve Primatic

Guests: Zaphon Wilson, Becky da Cruz, Kathy Bennett, David Wheeler, Tony Morris, Monica Rausch

I. Minutes of Friday, November 7, 2008 were approved

II. College of Liberal Arts

A. Modifications to the degree program for the degree of BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LAW AND SOCIETY were unanimously approved.

B. Proposal to change the Progress Requirements for all department majors in CRIMINAL JUSTICE, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE to require that all majors earn a C or better in all courses taken in their discipline, that they be required to take an exit examination (the Major Field test for their respective field), and that all courses in the minor also require a C or better was unanimously approved.

1. Lengthy discussion of the possibility of requiring a certain percentage grade in the major field exam as a required element in capstone classes (possibly 75%). Noted differences among the ways departments construct, use, finance, and evaluate these exams. Mark agreed to discuss some of the possibilities of increasing the assessment uses of these exams with Andy Clark.

C. Proposal to create GWST 4700: Internship in Gender and Women’s Studies was approved (4 votes in favor, 1 abstention).

1. Discussion centered on the length of the course description. It was determined to in-line with similar courses in other departments.

D. Proposal to modify the degree program in the BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GENDER AND WOMEN’S to add GWST 4700 to Lists A and B of the Additional Major Field Courses was unanimously approved.

E. Proposals to create: ENGL 3710: Freelance Writing and Publication, ENGL 4760: Scriptwriting, ENGL 5710 U/G: Writing for the Nonprofit Sector, FILM 5030 U/G: Television Theory and Criticism, JOUR 3200: Introduction to Print and Online Media, JOUR3450: Editing and Markup, JOUR 4100: Public Affairs Reporting were unanimously approved.

1. Discussion led by David Wheeler who outlined the major changes for the BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH WITH A CONCENTRATION IN COMMUNICATIONS. He noted these
changes of particular importance: The internship class will be used for majors in this track rather than the ENGL Capstone class; there is a significant expansion of the Journalism track; and that these classes allow him to shape a major that follows national trends in community outreach.

2. Some discussion of the possible conflicts with the photography component of the JOUR 3200 class with courses in photography in AMT. It was concluded that the focus of this class was distinct from those other offerings in its emphasis on print-based journalism.

3. Some further discussion about the possible inclusion of international affairs in JOUR 4100. It was concluded that the focus of the course would be local affairs.

F. Proposal to delete JOUR 3720: Journalism Lab was unanimously approved.

G. Proposals to modify the existing descriptions of JOUR 3430 and JOUR 4000 were unanimously approved.

H. Proposal to modify the program of study for THE BACHELOR of ARTS in ENGLISH (Communications) renamed THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH/PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION was unanimously approved.

1. Discussion led by David Wheeler who outlined the major changes for the program of study. He noted that the new program is broad-based and serves all four areas in the discipline and in which LLP has faculty who hold expertise. The one course that is listed as THEA 3490, which appears to be competition with these offerings, is an old listing that should have been dropped when the course was folded into another course in FILM.

The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting Monday, February 16, 2009 at noon in Solms 209. The meeting was adjourned.