SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES

May 3, 2018 ~ 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
STRAND HALL ROOM 3171


Regrets: N. Gajdamaschko, D. Ng, S. Poyntz

Guests: R. Khan Hemani, Registrar and Executive Director, Student Enrollment S. Birnie, Associate Registrar, Information, Records and Registration

Introductions were made for the benefit of the new members.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of the Minutes of April 5, 2018

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. New Business

COURSE CHANGES (SCUS 18-34)

a. Faculty of Environment (SCUS 18-34a)

Motion 1
It was moved by C. Murray and seconded by C. Lowenberger

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following course changes effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

This is subject to consultation between the Department of Geography and the Faculty of Health Sciences regarding an overlap check for GEOG 386.
Overlap check is now complete and the amendment to keep HSCI 130 as a prerequisite has been approved.

1. Department of Geography

   (i) Deletion of GEOG 427
   (ii) Title and description change for GEOG 221 and 241
   (iii) Title, description and prerequisite change for GEOG 261
   (iv) Prerequisite and equivalent statement change for GEOG 321
   (v) Prerequisite change for GEOG 322, 322W, 323, 324, 325 and 327
   (vi) Units and prerequisite change for GEOG 328
   (vii) Prerequisite change for GEOG 362, 362W, 363, 377, 381 and 381W
   (viii) Title, description and prerequisite change for GEOG 382
   (ix) Prerequisite change for GEOG 383
   (x) Title, description and prerequisite change for GEOG 385
   (xi) Prerequisite change for GEOG 386, 387 and 389W

b. Faculty of Science (SCUS 18-34b)

Motion 2
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by S. Spector

   “that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the following course changes effective Spring 2019.”

   CARRIED

1. Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology

   (i) Prerequisite change for BPK 326

2. Department of Chemistry

   (ii) Prerequisite and equivalent statement changes for CHEM 109, 111, 121, 122, 123, 124, 180, 260, 282, 283, 316, 360, 440, 464 and 465
   (iii) Description and prerequisite changes for CHEM 230 and 286
   (iv) Description, prerequisite and equivalent statement changes for CHEM 110, 120 and 433
   (v) Prerequisite changes for NUSC 342, 346, 444 and 482
   (vi) Units number change for NUSC 346
NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

a. Faculty of Environment (SCUS 18-35)

1. Department of Archaeology (SCUS 18-35a)

Motion 3
It was moved by D. Yang and seconded by S. Spector

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposals:
• ARCH 389-3, Ethnoecology
• ARCH 425-3, Archaeometry effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

2. Department of Geography (SCUS 18-35b)

Motion 4
It was moved by D. Yang and seconded by S. Spector

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the New Course Proposals:
• GEOG 266W-3, Geography in Practice with W designation
• GEOG 423-4, Capitalist Natures effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

PROGRAM CHANGES

a. Faculty of Environment (SCUS 18-36)

1. Department of Archaeology (SCUS 18-36a)

Motion 5
It was moved by D. Yang and seconded by C. Lowenberger

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the Requirement changes to the:
• Archaeology Major, Honours, Minor and Extended Minor
• Archaeology and Anthropology Joint Major effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED
2. School of Resource and Environmental Management (SCUS 18-36b)

Motion 6
It was moved by D. Yang and seconded by C. Murray

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the upper and lower division requirement changes to the Resource and Environmental Management Minor program effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

b. Faculty of Science (SCUS 18-37)

1. Department of Biomedical Physiology and Kinesiology (SCUS 18-37a)

Motion 7
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by K. Oldknow

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the requirement changes to the Occupational Ergonomics Certificate effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

2. General Science Program (SCUS 18-37b)

Motion 8
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by C. Murray

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the requirement changes to the General Science Double Minor program effective Spring 2019.”

CARRIED

4. Other Business

a. Revision to the English Language Admission Requirement (SCUS 18-38)

Motion 9
It was moved by C. Lowenberger and seconded by M. Lechner

“that SCUS approve and recommend to Senate the revision to the English Language Admission requirement increasing the minimum final grade in English 12 (or equivalent) to 70% effective Fall 2019.”

CARRIED

M. Peragine spoke to this agenda item and answered questions posed by the SCUS members.
b. Repeat Policy – Interpretation and Implementation (For Discussion)

C. Murray began the discussion regarding the Repeat Policy and circulated a document showing statistics and the internal process for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences related to course repeats. She expressed concern about the inconsistent practices across the university with regard to implementation of the repeat policy and the harm to students who do follow the rules. She proposed that the policy be reviewed and rewritten to ensure enforcement of the policy is consistent and maintained.

The SCUS members posed questions to R. Khan Hemani and S. Birnie:

- If we look at stats, how many students across the university have more than 5 repeats?
- What type of students are they? Are they in academic difficulty?
- How has this changed from 5 years ago? Has it changed?

R. Khan Hemani gave some background of this agenda item stating that there was a working group created December 2014 reviewing the repeat policy to address the issues of interpretation and implementation but it didn’t make any progress. She also gave some data she had on hand and explained that statistics and data can be interpreted in many different ways and that if policy was implemented, it still doesn’t help those students who move from one program to another or to a shared program where two or more faculties are involved as other factors come into play such as transfer credit or equivalency.

R. Khan Hemani asked the SCUS group to first decide what the purpose of the policy should be and what the goals are. In terms of rewriting the policy, R. Khan Hemani will look to the SCUS group to provide these answers in order to move forward and possibly create a policy review group to work alongside R. Khan Hemani and S. Birnie.

It was suggested that if all grades were shown on transcripts, the number of repeats may decrease. Discussion ensued and all agreed that further data and discussion is needed for a future SCUS meeting as the focus isn’t mainly on repeats but other issues as well.

It was decided that R. Khan Hemani will forward an email to the SCUS members requesting information and data with regard to their faculty’s internal practices in terms of course repeats and their goals for the Repeat Policy. R. Khan Hemani and S. Birnie will compile the information into a document to be circulated to the SCUS members for any feedback and revisions before bringing it forward to a SCUS meeting for further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm
Minutes prepared by R. Balletta