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CWU Curriculum Committee Minutes - 03/06/08

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Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee March 6, 2008 3:10 – 5:00 Barge 304

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: L. Milner, K. Temple, M. Wise, R. Bransdorfer, N. Gierlasinski, B. Palmquist, T. Culjak, R. Spodobalski-Brower

MEMBERS ABSENT: L. Braunstein, T. Pellett, D. Howard

<u>Approval of the agenda</u> - The agenda was adjusted to move the definition of a specialization last on the agenda. The amended agenda was moved to be approved by B. Palmquist, M. Wise seconded. MOTION PASSED.

<u>Approval of the February 21st minutes</u> - K. Temple moved to approve the 2/21/08 minutes, B. Palmquist seconded. MOTION PASSED.

Policy Change - Graduate Studies - Cross-listed courses - A proposed new policy for graduate cross-listed/blended courses was distributed. The policy states that only 400 level courses can be cross-listed and a distinction between objectives in the different levels be identified. Examples of potential content differences are: 1) additional readings/writing, 2) differential credits; and 3) additional lab, field, performance, or studio work. Further assessment distinctions might include: 1) different grading scales; and 2) evaluation of additional work.

R. Bransdorfer moved to approve the proposed policy, B. Palmquist seconded. MOTION PASSED. The policy will proceed to the Faculty Senate for approval.

Review Curriculum Summary Log - March 6th - The summary log was reviewed.

<u>Definition of a Specialization</u> - The committee decided that the graduate council should be involved in the definition of a specialization. L. Hoff will invite the council to the next meeting.

After minor edits, the final specialization definition for undergraduate programs is:

Specialization: A specialization is a coherent, focused subfield within a degree program. A specialization can be distinguished from a new degree in that the full designation of the degree title – including level, type and major – does not change when a new specialization is added. Specializations in an undergraduate major must share a core, defined as a group of courses shared by all specializations within a major, which consists of no fewer than 25 credits. The specialization must consist of no fewer than 20 course credits. (Add graduate specialization definition here.)

Any alternatives in the core ("or in the core") must include justification for that option. The justification must show that either option has the necessary outcomes for the expected student knowledge.

A new specialization must be reported to the HECB as an informational item.

What type of prerequisites are or should be listed in the program? - When any course is specifically listed as a prerequisite or admission requirement it is added to the total credits for the program. If the requirement is a general education elective, it is not added to the total.