**Curriculum Committee Minutes**

**September 9, 2014**

**Present:** Mylène Dressler (Recorder), Drew Hays (Chair), George Guo, Martee Holt, Adrienne Israel, Michele Malotky, Karen Tinsley

**Regrets:** Norma Middleton, Rena Davis

1. Meeting opened at 2:30pm with a moment of silence.
2. Minutes from the September 2, 2014 meeting were approved.
3. Approved the J-Term course PPS 350 *Investigations into Economic Class in America* for SJER Gen Ed credit. **Action Item:** Drew will contact Delilah White to convey Curriculum’s approval.
4. Approved the J-Term course ENVS 110/310 *Practicum in Sustainable Agriculture.* **Action Item:**  Drew will contact Marlene McCauley to convey Curriculum’s approval.
5. The committee moved on to a discussion of the proposed Biotechnology major, taking into consideration additional information provided by the Biology Department in response to concerns raised at the February 23, 2013 meeting. Michelle noted improvements made to the proposal that addressed Curriculum’s prior concerns that an insufficient number of courses specific to the Biotech major would be offered at Guilford as opposed to at Consortium institutions, and also drew the committee’s attention to the new material outlining a sample four-year student plan that demonstrates the ability of Guilford Biotech majors to complete their major in a timely and coordinated fashion. Adrienne raised a likely faculty concern that Guilford has traditionally preferred and insisted that students complete the entirety of their major at Guilford College, while noting those trends in higher education that are moving toward the construction of majors which can be completed in cooperation with multiple institutions, business and industry, and/or other sectors outside the degree-granting college. The committee briefly discussed the possibility of new grant sources, increased student employability, and enhanced quality of programming among colleges responding to this trend. George recommended that the committee find data from our peer and aspirant institutions that addresses these possibilities.
6. Approved the Biotechnology major for next-step consideration by Clerk’s Committee. **Action Item:** Drew will provide the necessary documentation to Clerk’s.
7. With agenda items complete, the committee moved on to comments and discussions from the floor. Michelle provided an update regarding the request, discussed during the September 2 meeting, for a permanent number for MATH 302: *Differential Equations*. Michelle noted that she had met with Don and Ben about the proposal, specifically regarding its impact on other math courses already on the schedule, and that she had recommended to Don and Ben that they first try the course as a 350/Special Topics course in Fall 2016, to gauge its impact on enrollment in other courses. Michelle also provided an update on the formation of the ad hoc committee for the Gen Ed Curriculum, and reported that it is still being assembled. Drew raised questions about the timing and nature of joint meetings between Curriculum and the ad hoc committee, and confirmed that he will keep Curriculum informed of developments,
8. Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm with a moment of silence.