

Athens State University Curriculum Committee Minutes

Charge: Review all curriculum proposals for addition of courses, changes in degree requirements, changes in course descriptions for existing courses, and make recommendations to the Senate.

At a regular meeting of the Athens State University Curriculum Committee, held in Waters Conference Room, on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at 12:30, Dr. Chris Otto, Convener, called the meeting to order.

Members Present: John Berzett, Barbara Burks, Jill Cook, Janet Dorning, Debbie Ferguson, Beth Vinson as Valerie Hendrix, Jim Kerner, Mike Leslie, Hugh Long, Johnnie Lundin, Chris Otto, Mike Haghghi as Kim Roberts, Bebe Shaw (13/19 Quorum).

Members Absent: Kevin Dupre, Tedi Gordon, Mary Harris, Adam Lewis, Wayne McCain, Nate Mitchell

Dr. Cromwell visited CC today. He addressed the following items, the draft minutes from which I sent to him to tweak, and thus what you see here is the collaboration, in his words, "to provide a little more substance and in places clarify."

1. Pass/Fail grades (reinstated for select classes like an internship or practicum. CC supported this).
2. Second minors (may seek as long as not "double dipping" more than 6 hours. CC supported this as well).
3. Credits in minor, track, and major (first, 60 seems excessive for a major. Cromwell asks that discussion continue on number of credits in minor, track, and major in an attempt to establish institutional guidelines. He mentioned that the norm at institutions is majors with 36-45 credit ranges and that would normally include 100 and 200 level courses with 50-60% upper division. He noted Alabama state guidelines that major had to be at least 32 credits with 19 upper division).
4. Graduate review program (needs external review for appropriate peer review. CC is typically for undergraduate programs only. CC will be provided graduate programs and asked for informal feedback).
5. Responsibilities (faculty are complaining about too much committee work, so suggestion was to limit committee numbers but a suggestion only. VP for Enrollment eventually clears students for graduation, so may need to be involved in CC from the beginning; however, this was a suggestion only and VP would be only one member of the committee).
5. Institutional requirements (Cromwell suggested that increasing flexibility will be of more assistance to students, e.g. double majors or students returning to ASU for second degrees).
6. 60 hour rule (Cromwell provided data from benchmark institutions, Alabama institutions, and other upper division institutions indicating there was a range of language about expectations for requirements but no evidence that 60 hours was the norm or found in the majority of schools. It was noted it was found in a couple. He spoke to questions

of CC regarding quality and rigor and supports both and suggests that it is best demonstrated in design of major and not in a rule of 60 upper division credits. CoB, for example, has a high number of credit hour requirements, generally 60. Cromwell believes a minor outside their college might improve their students' liberal arts education. This is true of all majors. In closing, Cromwell suggested and supports ongoing conversation and efforts to make programs more flexible for students while ensuring quality and rigor).

There being no further old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Bebe Gish Shaw, Secretary