Curric Affairs Committee  1 April  2013  AGENDA  9-10 am  Reichardt 301

1-800-893-8850  Participants' PIN: 1109306  Convener's PIN (Rainer): 1109371

1.  APPROVE MINUTES OF 18 March
2.  Report on GERC from J Rosenberg and (or) Cindy Hardy

3.  NEW BUSINESS
   A.  – Request from the Registrar’s office
      DF Deferred – "This designation is used for courses such as theses and special projects, which require more than one semester to complete. It indicates that course requirements cannot be completed or when institutional equipment breakdown resulted in non-completion by the end of the semester. Credit may be withheld without penalty until the course requirements are met within an approved time." (OE’s underline)

      From the Registrar: "As we clean up and crack down on some policies that have become lax, we've found several departments within CRCD that use DF grades for their undergraduate students that are on a student's transcripts for literally years. These become problematic when a student is up for graduation and it turns out the instructor for the course has moved on and there is no grade information for the student.

      We would like CAC to discuss setting a time limit on DF grades so that the Office of Admissions and the Registrar can obtain grades for students in a timelier fashion rather than the ambiguous within an approved time that it currently reads."

Looking for some good ideas that won't have unintended deleterious consequences....

B.  Preliminary request for deletion of Minor in Leadership & Civic Engagement (are there ANY bizarre unintended consequences???)

   The Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement was conceived as a program that would prepare students to be leaders in the north. The electives allowed students to prepare for leadership roles in local / state, national or international arenas.

2.  Enrollment Information


I taught the course alone twice with enrollments of 10 (2006) and 5 (2008).

I taught 5 students in NORS 486: Senior Seminar in Leadership and Civic Engagement, and these 5 graduated with minors in Leadership and Civic Engagement: Sara Speziale, Carolyn Curley, Tessa Korzeniewski, Robin Keesler, Meredith Cameron. I also taught one student who earned the Bachelors in Emergency Management: Dane Waisanen. These were all individual studies.

3.  Dr. Kleinfeld and I were paid twice for 1/2 course overload to teach NORS 205. (2003 and 2005). I was paid once as an overload, and once I taught it without compensation. I never received compensation for teaching the capstone as an individual study. The Northern Studies Program never received resources for providing the Minor.

Note: We envisioned that as the program grew we would receive additional funding and I would teach the Leadership course rather than one of my other courses. However this vision never materialized.
More information:

The Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement was developed in the context of consideration of a Ph.D. Program in Leadership at UAF. Dr. Joseph Kan, Dean of the Graduate School encouraged those discussions. However, faculty concluded that without a single recognized expert in the field of Leadership Studies at UAF, we did not have the expertise amongst our faculty to support such a program.

Some faculty engaged in these discussions, along with Dr. Kan, came to the conclusion that a Minor in Leadership Development would prepare students for leadership roles in the north, and the Northern Studies Program was designated as an appropriate home for the program. Dr. Judith Kleinfeld and I shared a $5,000 stipend for developing the program. We developed the proposal for the Minor, which drew upon courses in Political Science, History and Rural Development for its electives. We designed the introductory course: NORS 205: Leadership, Citizenship and Choice and the capstone course: NORS 486: Senior Seminar in Leadership and Civic Engagement. The capstone course placed students in internships and required readings that connected their internship experiences with theories in leadership.

Dr. Kleinfeld and I team taught Leadership, Citizenship and Choice twice with 15 and 13 students. I later taught the course with 10 and 5 students, the second time without compensation. I taught the capstone to 6 students as individual studies. All of them graduated with the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement.

There has been low demand for the Minor and low demand for the courses. Moreover, we noted that many of the students who were attracted to NORS 205: Leadership, Citizenship and Choice were more interested in the social aspects of leadership than in serious academic analysis of leadership theory.

We determined after a few years that there was neither a demand for the Minor nor the resources available within the Northern Studies Program or the College of Liberal Arts to continue offering the program. The School of Management no longer requires the Minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement for its Bachelor of Emergency Management degree program.

The School of Management is currently working on a (completely?) different Minor in Leadership to be 'housed' in SOM instead of CLA.

Key question: is there any reason to not go ahead and accept the request to delete??