

Discovery Committee Minutes – Mar 24, 2021

Present (Zoom): Nicky Gullace (chair), Kathrine Aydelott (vice chair), Sajay Arthanat, Norma Bazylinski, Jay Colbert, Andy Colby, Jillian Cookinham, Roger Grinde, Yvette Lazdowski, Lisa MacFarlane, Alicia Medros, Dawn Meredith, Amy Oliva, Charles Vannette

Absent: Greg McMahon, Subhash Minocha, Catherine Peebles

Guest: Kate Gaudet, Honors Program

I. Welcome and Announcements

II. Action Items

Minutes

Motion: Kathrine Aydelott moved and Roger Grinde seconded approval of the minutes of the Mar 10, 2021 meeting.

Vote: Yes 5; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Minutes approved.

Course and/or Program Review

COLA

- THDA 444A What's Old Becomes New: Dramatic Impacts – reactivate for FPA/INQ/WI (Re-submit for reconfirmation. DC tabled 3/10/21 & requested additional information.)

Motion: Jay Colbert moved and Charles Vannette seconded approval of THDA 444A for FPA.

Vote: Yes 7; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Course reconfirmed for FPA

Motion: Dawn Meredith moved and Roger Grinde seconded approval of THDA 444A for INQ.

Vote: Yes 7; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Course reconfirmed for INQ.

Motion: Roger Grinde moved and Sajay Arthanat seconded approval of THDA 444A for WI.

Vote: Yes 7; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Course reconfirmed for WI.

- PHIL 420 Introduction to Philosophy of Law & Justice – HUMA/WI (new course)

Motion: Dawn Meredith moved and Charles Vannette seconded approval of PHIL 420 for HUMA.

Vote: Yes 6; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Course approved for HUMA.

Motion: Sajay Arthanat moved and Kathrine Aydelott seconded approval of PHIL 420 for WI.

Vote: Yes 6; No 0; Abs 0. **Motion passed.** Course approved for WI.

The DC noted that credit hour policy, Discovery Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), and explanation of Discovery designation(s) in a course should be included in all Discovery syllabi. However, Discovery cannot insist this information be included until the DC has agreed on a syllabus template and has clearly communicated syllabi requirements to colleges and departments. (Please see **III. Discussion.**)

It was also recommended that Discovery revise/update the Discovery Course Proposal Form questions.

Student Petitions

1. Resubmit of request to allow Univ. of Alaska-Anchorage course MATH A115 Art of Mathematics to fulfill QR.

Vote: Yes 7; No 0; Abs 0. **Petition approved.** (kbc01a090220)

III. Discussion

Discovery Course Syllabus Templates & Checklist - Nicky presented the draft syllabus templates and checklist developed by the DC program assessment sub-committee. Discussion included the importance of including the rationale for Discovery – explicitly stating for students why Discovery courses matter and why they have to take them. The questions of whether course catalog descriptions and a booklist policy must be included in syllabi, how OER and other online sources are accommodated for in a booklist policy (if UNH has one), and how much detail needs to be included in the course schedule was discussed. For detail in course schedule, the DC agreed there could be a range of what is acceptable. For ex, to list the “theme” – what the “big topics” are and how they will be covered.

Next Steps: Nicky and Amy will look into the questions about course catalog description and UNH booklist policy. Nicky, Amy, and Lisa MacFarlane will meet to discuss how to include rationale for Discovery in the syllabus checklist. Nicky and Amy will revise the syllabus template and checklist and bring back to the DC for discussion and vote at their next meeting. Once the DC has agreed on syllabus templates and checklist, Nicky will forward to the Academic Program Committee of the Faculty Senate for their endorsement.

Meeting adjourned 2:00pm. Submitted by Amy M. Oliva