MCS College Council
Meeting Minutes  |  2016-03-03

Present:
Bohman, Tom          Gilman, Fred          Mitchell, Aaron
Braun, Maggie        Leoni, Giovanni       Newstead, Clive
D’Antonio, Jason     Ly, Danith            O’Neil, Stephanie
Freeland, Rea         McCarl, Sharon        Peteanu, Linda
Garoff, Steve         Meyer, Curtis

Minutes by Veronica Peet

Maggie Braun presents 1 topic for discussion and approval by MCS College Council:

- CATALYST Course Proposal 38-100.
  - This would be a EUREKA freshman seminar substitute for students transferring into MCS.
  - 3-unit mostly self-directed course where students interact with Core Director and a TA.
  - This class is required to meet the new MCS Core outcomes that are met “only” through the freshman seminar.
  - Students will, as part, create a presentation on a scientific topic similar to the group project presentation.
  - Approved unanimously.

Aaron Mitchell presents 7 topics for discussion and approval by MCS College Council:

- New Course proposal including syllabus for Cancer Biology - 03-435.
  - Course has been given by Jason D’Antonio as a special topics course and was very popular.
  - His background and research is in the field of Cancer Biology and there is a strong student interest in the course.
  - Question as to how many students will take it. Answer is 15-20 is anticipated.
  - Approved unanimously.

- New Course Proposal and syllabus for Biochemistry of the Brain - 03-366.
  - This would be a more advanced Neuroscience course for majors.
  - Discussion of the course and its need and integration into the major in the continually evolving field.
  - Question as to who would teach. Answer is DJ Brasier in Fall 2016.
  - Approved unanimously.

- New Course Proposal for Summer Research Institute (SRI) – 03-270.
  - The need for the creation of a course for SRI is due to CMUQ students required to be enrolled in a course for a student visa for summer.
  - Questions and discussion about the number of units and the cost to domestic students.
  - Discussion of the need for instructors to be acknowledged for teaching credit for the amount of time invested in the course.
  - Approved unanimously
• Addition of 85-426 to the list of Computational Options for Neuroscience majors.
  o This course will give greater flexibility to meet the computational requirement for the Neuroscience major.
  o Students need additional options and the course meets the desired goals of the requirement.
  o Students have had some challenges in meeting the computational requirement with existing options and scheduling conflicts.
  o Students have enjoyed the course when taking it as an elective.
  o Discussion of if it is “Computational enough.” Answer is 15-112 is a prerequisite.
  o Approved unanimously.

• Addition of 1 unit of 03201 to the requirement for Neuroscience majors.
  o Adding this will bring more consistency in the majors offered in Biological Sciences.
  o Students not exposed to the presentations in 03201 are at a disadvantage and do not know of the same on-campus and post-graduation opportunities as the rest of the Biology majors.
  o 1 unit not considered overly burdensome.
  o Approved unanimously.

• Course Number change Genetics to 03-220.
  o Biological Sciences curriculum committee wants majors to take Genetics during their sophomore year, when previously it was during junior year.
  o Therefore, it is appropriate to renumber to maintain consistency.
  o Discussion of if students are prepared. Answer is that only prerequisite is Modern Biology which students take their first semester.
  o Approved unanimously

• Course Number change Cell Bio to 03-320.
  o Biological Sciences curriculum committee wants majors to take Cell Bio during their Junior year.
  o Renumbering to maintain consistency.
  o Bio Chemistry and Organic Chemistry are prerequisites.
  o Approved unanimously.