

to WEE
to UCC
General Info
from Senate
Exec
message

Date: February 19, 2010
To: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
From: University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

Re: Revision of UCC Charge

In December 2009, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) requested that the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) review and comment upon a proposed change to the UCC's formal charge. The UCC submits the following report pursuant to this request.

The UCC supports the Faculty Senate Executive Committee's effort to promote stronger cross-campus communication on curricular matters affecting the University as a whole. Consistent with this effort, the UCC offers, below (Section III), a charge revision that reflects 1) the committee's interest in promoting cross-campus communication of curricular/program changes with cross-college origins, requirements, or implications, 2) the need for a more assertive UCC, CAAD, and Faculty Senate role in reviewing new programs or program changes with cross-college origins, requirements, or implications, and 3) UCC concerns about the December 2009 draft revision.

The following report is divided into four sections:

- I. Proposed charge revision, December 2009 (ad-hoc FSEC/UCC committee). (Page 2)
- II. UCC response to December 2009 proposal. (Pages 2-3)
- III. Proposed charge revision, February 2010 (UCC). (Page 4)
- IV. Existing UCC charge. (Pages 4-5)

I. Proposed Charge Revision, December 2009 (ad-hoc FSEC/UCC committee)

The University Curriculum Committee (UCC), as authorized by the Faculty Senate, will approve individual courses for the categories of the general education program, establish pre-requisites, and approve assessment procedures for general education curriculum courses.

The UCC will make recommendations to the Faculty Senate and Provost as appropriate for the revision of the general education curriculum or coordination of interdisciplinary programs.

The UCC has the authority to approve individual courses with the INTD designation.

The Faculty Senate will review all new majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations (interdisciplinary and within disciplines, graduate and undergraduate) and changes to existing majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations (interdisciplinary and within disciplines, graduate and undergraduate). Faculty Senate will make recommendations about all new majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations (interdisciplinary and within disciplines, graduate and undergraduate) and changes to existing majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations (interdisciplinary and within disciplines, graduate and undergraduate) to the Provost.

The Faculty Senate may forward new majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations, or changes to existing majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations to the UCC for further evaluation. The UCC will make recommendations regarding these majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations to the Faculty Senate after its review. Individual colleges and schools retain authority over the approval of individual courses within their units that are not part of the general education curriculum. The UCC is the curricular body that reviews majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations that have been identified as having cross-college implications. The UCC will make recommendations about these majors, minors, certificate programs, and concentrations to the Faculty Senate.

II. UCC Response to December 2009 Proposal

- The UCC suggests that curricular/program matters that do not implicate the general education curriculum or have cross-college implications should not fall under the UCC's jurisdiction.
- The changes required by the December 2009 proposal are likely to impose a heavy workload burden on an already busy committee. The UCC is a demanding service commitment, and its twice-monthly meetings already are consumed by the committee's normal business.
- College deans might object to the Faculty Senate's (and UCC's) intrusion into the activities of college curriculum committees and the work of college governance structures (Council and Cabinet, in particular) under the revision.
- UCC members expressed concern over the proposal's grant of review authority over new graduate programs, concentrations, and/or certificate programs—and changes to existing graduate programs—to the UCC. Members feel the UCC does not have sufficient authority (vis-à-vis the learning outcomes of these programs/courses) or expertise to intervene here.
- UCC members expressed concern about the proposed changes for the autonomy and authority of the college curriculum committees. Each college, with the exception of A&S, has its own curriculum and learning outcomes against which it judges new (and changes to existing)

III. Proposed Charge Revision, February 2010 (UCC)

The University Curriculum Committee (UCC), a subcommittee of the Faculty Senate, will recommend educational policy for the University regarding proposals that involve campus-wide requirements or that have origins, requirements, or implications that go beyond the individual colleges. Individual colleges and schools retain authority over their own curricula and programs.

The UCC will approve new majors, minors, concentrations, and programs, graduate and undergraduate, and changes to existing majors, minors, concentrations, and programs, graduate and undergraduate, that have cross-college origins, requirements, or implications. These proposals must be submitted to the Council of Academic and Administrative Departments (CAAD) for review and comment on potential cross-college implications before submission to the UCC.

The UCC will approve individual courses for the categories of the general education program and approve assessment procedures for the general education curriculum.

The UCC will make recommendations to the Faculty Senate and Provost, as appropriate, for revision of the general education curriculum or coordination of cross-college programs.

The UCC will approve individual courses with interdisciplinary designations such as INTD.

The UCC will forward all committee actions to the Faculty Senate for inclusion in a provisional agenda. The Faculty Senate may, at its discretion, review these actions. All UCC decisions will proceed as directed by the UCC, unless a subsequent action by the Faculty Senate directs otherwise.

The UCC will have faculty representation from each of the divisions of the College of Arts and Sciences, each of the professional schools, and Cowles Library. One administrative representative from CAAD and an administrator designated by the Provost (normally the Associate or Vice Provost who is appointed Director of the Drake Curriculum by the Provost) will serve on the committee in an *ex-officio* capacity. Members serve three-year terms.

The committee will elect one chair and one vice-chair from the faculty members of the committee. The chair shall be a tenured faculty member. The vice-chair shall be liaison to the Drake Curriculum Analysis and Planning (DCAP) committee and shall, if tenured, serve as chair the following year.

IV. Existing UCC Charge

The UCC will recommend educational policy for the university regarding proposals that have implications that go beyond the individual colleges or those that involve campus-wide requirements. Individual colleges and schools retain authority over their own curricula and programs.

UCC will approve interdisciplinary programs and majors (graduate and undergraduate).

The UCC will implement the general education curriculum, approved by the Senate, including approving individual courses for the categories of the general education program, establishing pre-requisites, and approving assessment procedures for general education curriculum courses.