

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
INDIANAPOLIS  
School of Liberal Arts  
Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee Report (2010-2011)**

TO: Subir Chakrabarti, President  
SLA Faculty Assembly

FROM: Daniella Kostroun, Chair  
SLA Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee, 2010-2011

DATE: April 11, 2011

**DESCRIPTION:** The Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee (UCSC) provides faculty oversight for matters of curriculum and standards. The committee's responsibilities include reviewing and developing specific recommendations for the Assembly on academic policies and standards. It also approves new courses, and recommends to the Assembly the approval of new majors, programs or certificates. Members of the committee are appointed for two-year terms.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** [with dates of term completion] (2010-2011):

**Daniella Kostroun** ('11), Chair

Assistant Professor, Department of History

**Robert Aponte** ('11), Agenda Council Representation

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

**Beth Goering** ('12)

Associate Professor, Department of Communications

**Sally Hornbeck** ('12)

Lecturer, English

**Jeremy Wilson** ('11)

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

**Mel Wininger** ('12)

Lecturer, English

**Enrica Ardemagni**, Acting Associate Dean of SLA Faculty Affairs

Professor, World Languages and Cultures-Spanish

There was some turnover in committee membership this academic year. At the beginning of the year, the committee voted Robert Aponte to be chair. He served through the fall semester. But when Linda Haas left the committee as Agenda Council Representative (ACR) in the early spring, Aponte became the new ACR. Daniella Kostroun then took on the position as chair. Candice Smith served as Administrative Secretary.

#### COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

The UCSC met four times during the 2010-11 academic year and conducted other business via e-mail and Oncourse.

The committee approved the following 16 courses:

ASL A215 Advanced Fingerspelling and Numbering systems  
ASL A219 History and Culture of the American Deaf Community  
ASL A231 Third Year ASL I  
ASL A232 Third Year ASL II  
ASL A321 Linguistics of American Sign Language  
COMM C345 Restorative Communication  
ENG Z303 Understanding Language Meaning: Semantics  
FILM C350 Film Noir  
FILM C351 Musicals  
FILM C361 The Hollywood Studio Era, 1930-1949  
FILM C380 French Cinema  
HIST E340 African Popular Culture  
PHIL P140 Introduction to Ethics  
REL R204 Religions in Africa  
REL R396 Religion and Fantasy  
REL R397 Mormonism and American Culture

The committee also approved the following 4 requests for course changes:

COMM M450 Video Production (Non-Majors) [change in course description]  
EALC C301-302 Third Year Chinese I & II [change in credit hours]  
ENG G411 Legal English [change in course description]  
MMHS M201 Introduction to Health Studies and Medical Humanities [change to satisfy both social science and arts and humanities distribution requirements]

Finally, the Committee approved a proposal for the creation of a BA program in Health Studies and Medical Humanities. This proposal will be forwarded for a vote to the Faculty Assembly at its April meeting.

There were no curriculum changes discussed by the committee this year.

#### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This was the first year that all of the USCS's paperwork went online. There were no major problems or concerns that arose from this change from the committee's perspective. Nor did the

committee receive any major complaints from initiating faculty. It appears, therefore, that the transition to the online format was a smooth one. Many committee members brought laptops to the meetings to consult their notes and to review the online .pdf files. It is clear that the online transition has significantly reduced paper usage for this committee.

The committee wants all SLA faculty attach copies of syllabi to their requests as a requirement for committee review even though the online form does not specifically demand that syllabi to be attached. The committee is adding this requirement because it discovered that without being able to see an actual syllabus, it was often impossible to determine the exact organization, content, and structure of a course.

The chair also noted in preparing this report that past chairs' reports have not been archived on the committee's website. She recommends that these reports be found and posted, if possible. She also recommends that the committee reviews its website next year to make sure that all of its links are up-to-date and are functioning properly.

There will be three vacancies on this committee that will need to be filled for the 2011-12 academic year.