**Mason Core Meeting 11/28/17**

**9-10:30 am INN 419**

**In attendance:** Bethany Usher, Cheryl Druehl, Melissa Broeckleman-Post, Krista Shires, Dominique Banville, Kelly Dunne, Becky Ericson, Jason Kinser, Shelley Reid, Mara Schoeny

***Announcements:***

•   Housekeeping and review of CIM

-Gentle *reminder* to members: please be careful when considering proposals from your own unit. We need to ensure that we are considering every proposal equally, and on its own merits. If anyone feels they need to advocate for a proposal, the appropriate thing to do would be to invite the proposer to meet with a member of the relevant subcommittee.

*-Courseleaf:* There are no mechanisms in place with CIM to make notes or minor suggestions

when approving courses. CIM allows for Approving or Rolling back. Therefore, as a committee, our choices will be: Approve (no revision)

Rollback (minor revisions), minor feedback given, subcommittee can verify that the required changes were made.

Rollback (major revisions) feedback given, can resubmit, entire committee will need to review when resubmitted

Rollback (deny)- no feedback given, not encouraged for resubmission

***Discussion:***

* **IT/Ethics Discussion continued\***
  + The committee reviewed the history of the IT/Ethics debate and previous options
  + Melissa Broeckleman-Post announced that the Oral Communication category may need a revision of learning outcomes due to the change in national standards for this category. The new national learning outcomes include ethics, and could be an elegant solution for where ethics could go if uncoupled from IT. Due to the breadth of categories Oral Communication stretches across, it could provide a flexible option for many departments. Cheryl’s data also shows that almost every department’s curriculum covers ethics in some way or another, which is complementary.
  + Assessment for IT/Ethics would be next fall, which would be the ideal time to begin talking to faculty members about how to revise their syllabi anyways
  + This solution actually means that some students could have a credit reduction of 1 cr. While others would break even…..no new/additional requirements
  + Students who come from NVCC tend to ask for the GAA waiver anyways, and it would not be any different for them; however, it was suggested that if the national communication standards were changing, it was very likely that NVCC would follow suit
  + We could implement the new IT only outcomes, which we approved in 2016
  + We could implement the changes to Oral Comm, announce that ethics are part of that
  + Enrollment report shows 7 Ethics only courses which are all ENGR or IT related. There would be minimal impact there; Bethany, Stephanie and Co-chairs could work with the two courses that could be inconvenienced by these changes ( CDS 151 and PHIL 112)
  + Melissa is on the national committee that is responsible for implementing these new national communication standards, and will provide us with a side-by-side comparison of the current Ethics only outcomes and the proposed Oral Communication outcome

***Proposals: (5) New (2) Revisited***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Title** |
| Arts | [ARTH 318: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/656/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| IT | [CDS 201: Introduction to Computational Social Science](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/1909/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| [IT](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/1910/index.html&step=tcadiff) | [CDS 205: Introduction to Agent-based Modeling and Simulation](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/1910/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| [SBS](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/1914/index.html&step=tcadiff) | [CDS 292: Introduction to Social Network Analysis](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/1914/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| [GU](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/2756/index.html&step=tcadiff) | [CONF 340: Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/2756/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| [GU](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/6198/index.html&step=tcadiff) | [EVPP 361: Introduction to Environmental Policy](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/6198/index.html&step=tcadiff) |
| [Synth](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/6223/index.html&step=tcadiff) | [EVPP 442: Urban Ecosystems and Processes](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/6223/index.html&step=tcadiff) |

**CDS 201: Rollback with major changes**

-Learning outcome 1 was addressed sufficiently

-Learning outcome 2 does not match. Using computational models is not a core IT

concept and the focus is too narrow.

-Learning outcome 3: how are students demonstrating they are meeting this outcome?

-This could be resubmitted in the future if learning outcomes are more clearly mapped

to the outcomes for IT; this could be done through examples of assignments/assessment. Discussion does not adequately demonstrate mastery

-general reminder that all syllabi must state that the course is a Mason Core and list the learning outcomes

**CDS 205: Rollback, not eligible for resubmission**

**-**Learning outcomes are not on the syllabus

-Concern that students who chose not to do assignment four would completely miss learning outcome 2

-Scope of course is very narrow-if this was the only IT course a student were to take as

an undergraduate, this would not be sufficient to say they have been exposed to IT

-How does agent based modeling relate?

**ARTH 318: Rollback with minor revisions**

-Not enough information about how students will demonstrate they are meeting the

learning outcomes-assignments, assessment

-content was good-overall course was received with enthusiasm

-proposer would need to give the subcommittee more information on assignments/examples but could be approved

**CDS 292: I missed the feedback on this course**

-rollback requested by department

-missing reflective piece

-need more of a comparison or contrast to show global perspective

**CONF 340: Rollback with major revision**

-course received with enthusiasm

-no learning outcomes are given

-need map of how learning outcomes map to the Mason Core outcomes or demonstrate

that the students are meeting the outcomes (i.e examples of assignments, assessment)

-committee requests more information

**EVPP 361: Rollback with major revisions**

-Concern that the textbook only seems to cover one or two chapters that are globally focused

-Learning outcome 3 is missing in particular

-more comparison or contrast between societies/cultures would be required

-missing reflective piece

-this could be eligible for resubmission, need more information and clarification about how the learning outcomes for the course meet the outcomes for the category

**EVPP 442: Rollback with major revisions**

-This course seems very narrowly focused, almost like a capstone course instead of synth

-communication for written and oral communication were not very assessable

-not clearly demonstrative of synthesis of 2 or more courses

-there are aspects of the learning outcomes that could be inferred, but there needs to be explicit mapping of outcomes and demonstration of how this course combines two or more

disciplines

-how will assignments illustrate the students will show they are meeting the outcomes? Examples?

**Next Meeting:**

* Assessment discussion with guest Shannon Nix
* **BIOL 124/125** Anatomy and Physiology for Natural Science with/without lab categories
* Oral Communication revised outcomes (for vote)
* Review of IT outcomes (voted on in 2016)
* Review of meeting schedule for next semester