

College for Seniors
Minutes of the Curriculum Committee
May 15, 2008

Co-Chair Carol Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM in the Gold Room at the ISU Foundation.

1. Absent: Marti Rasmussen (excused), Bob Rust, George Seifert
2. Minutes from the April 17 meeting were amended by an e-mail sent earlier by Marti Rasmussen. (See agenda for details.) The minutes were approved as amended.
3. Sam Wormley, Co-Chair, conducted a review of courses on the schedule for Fall 2008. (Refer to the online grid for details.)

Jan Breitman said that cars for courses meeting in the new Alumni building on Beach Avenue can use parking lot A2 nearby.

F08-1: The schedule and coordinators are set.

F08-2: Alvie Young will provide a catalog description, once details are set.

F08-7: Barbara Matthies requested that the cost of a German phrase book be included in the fee for this course, as it was last year.

F08-9: The status of this course is now OK.

F08-10: Marti Rasmussen is still finalizing the list of speakers.

F08-11: Anita Beal reported that this course is set.

F08-12: Bill LaGrange reported that he is in contact with the instructor.

F08-13: Laurent Hodges will finalize details when he returns to the US.

F08-14: Will be offered at Green Hills on Mondays 7:00-9:00 PM.

F08-15: It was decided to postpone the Industry Tours until Spring 2009, unless Carol or Marti can contact a coordinator to make all the arrangements.

F08-16: Will be offered at Wesley Acres in Des Moines on a schedule to be arranged.

F08-17: Will be shepherded by Doug Finnemore. The course proposal is the same as last year's. Jan Breitman noted that one additional van driver is needed, and members suggested an ISU student might be recruited.

F08-18: Status is OK. Software versions might affect the content.

F08-19 and 20: These courses are OK.

One additional course should be offered at The Lodge in West Des Moines for 6 weeks.

Carol Phillips reported that an instructor for the Mark Twain course is not available. Instead, Jean Meek is willing to offer her music course on “Krumphorns . . .”, etc. from last semester. Otherwise, Jorgen Rasmussen can contact Harry Weiss about cutting his proposed 8-week course down to 6 sessions for that audience. The starting date and meeting day are not set.

4. Sam moved on to a review of the proposed 4-week courses for Winter 2009.

W09-1: Sam will continue to offer this course as long as demand warrants it.

W09-2: Carol pointed out that “Going Green” will be the third in a series on environmental concerns and should also be complementary to the “Ames Water Supply” course.

W09-3: Marti Rasmussen will shepherd this course on railroads.

W09-4: Marti will also shepherd this course on Ames authors.

W10-5: Bill LaGrange will shepherd this course on literature.

W09-6: Anita Beal will contact Deb Marquardt about offering a writing workshop.

W09-7: Bill LaGrange will shepherd this course.

The Poker course will probably be offered again. Carol is the shepherd.

JoAnn Brown pointed out that there will be 2 computer courses, not 6 as listed.

5. Sam continued to the tentative courses for Spring 2009.

S09-1: Doug Finnemore, not the Berans, will be the instructor. They will alternate semesters.

S09-2: The Mark Twain course might be offered in Winter instead of Spring, if the instructor agrees to shorten it to 4 weeks. Bill LaGrange will follow up on this.

(No S09-3)

S09-4 & 5: Sam will offer two 4-week photography courses again.

S09-6: No time has been set.

S09-7: The instructor might not be available. Carol will follow up.

S09-8: Probably OK.

S09-9: Sam introduced a proposal for a philosophy of science course based on materials by Daniel Robinson. The set of DVDs and outlines carry a cost of about \$60. Committee members thought it was worth pursuing.

S09-10: Possibly the Industry Tours course

Two 4-week Bridge courses are scheduled, as well as 4-week computer courses.

Carol suggested a course on “Cooking for One” for men. Barbara Matthies suggested that single women would also be interested in this topic. The Committee agreed that a proposal should be developed.

6. Jan Breitman gave an update on the new ISU Alumni Building, where classes will be held in the Fall term. Although it is not completely finished, offices are scheduled to move in on June 16. Excess office furniture will be auctioned on Saturday, June 21, at Fisher-Nickell Hall.
7. Jan also updated the Committee on the status of the Osher grant application process that would eventuate in changes to the College for Seniors name and necessitate a change from charging tuition for courses to operating as a membership organization. She said that the completed application for the initial grant is being sent in today.
8. Jorgen Rasmussen announced that his duties will no longer include attendance at Curriculum Committee meetings, and he was thanked for his active role. The Co-Chairs announced that they will fulfill their term together through the coming year, even though Carol is taking on some duties as chair-elect of the College for Seniors Board. Sam and Carol expressed thanks to Committee members whose terms are ending with this meeting: Bob Rust, Barbara Matthies, George Seifert, and Alvie Young.

9. Reminders:

The Fall Preview takes place on August 21 in Scheman, followed by the Curriculum Committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Matthies