CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
March 23, 2012
Submitted by James Fant


Call to Order: The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Curriculum Committee met on March 23, 2012 in Rm. 1031A McCarty Hall D. Dr. Nicole Stedman called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Previous agenda items and supporting material can be found on the CALS Curriculum Committee homepage under archived information: http://www.cals.ufl.edu/faculty_staff/curriculum_committee.shtml

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dr. Porter to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2012 meeting of the CALS CC. The motion was approved.

As a new standing agenda item for each meeting Dr. Turner will provide the committee with updates of UCC action on CALS items.

All items approved by the committee will be forwarded to either the Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC), Graduate Council (GC) or the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) once any changes requested are made and the submission is complete.

Syllabus Statements – http://www.cals.ufl.edu/faculty_staff/curriculum_committee.shtml

Update from UCC

The following CALS items were approved at the March 20 UCC meeting:
- HOS 5XXX Advanced Nutritional Management of Ornamental Crops
- WIS 4XXX Ecology of Bird Introductions and Invasions

Graduate New Course Proposals

1. ENY 5XXX – Insects as Vectors of Plant Pathogens
   A motion was made by Dr. Porter to recycle this item to the department for changes and resubmission. This motion was approved. Course overlap was raised as a concern and the committee requests letters of support from other departments (ex. Plant Pathology). It was suggested the Plant Pathology be considered as a prerequisite for this course. Regarding the final test the syllabus states that the student’s final grade will be reduced a letter grade if not taken by the last day of the semester. Would this be a full letter grade (ex. A to B) or based on the grading
scale (ex. A to B+)? Please clarify this section. It was suggested that the course objective be
restated to clearly indicate that the focus is on the biology of insect vectors.

2. SWS 5XXX – Sustainable Agricultural and Urban Land Management
   (Items #2 and #4 were reviewed together. Separate motions were made)
   A motion was made by Dr. Porter to approve this item with changes requested. The
   motion was approved. The syllabus needs to include a reading list. It is not clear where class
   assignments/homework fall in the evaluation process. Are they part of the 25% for class
   participation? This needs to be clarified in either the evaluation section or the student’s
   responsibilities and expectations section of the syllabus. It is not clear what the penalty is in
   regards to homework assignments not turned in on time.

Graduate Course Change Proposal

3. PCB 6528 – Plant Cell and Developmental Biology
   (Resubmission from 10/21/11)
   A motion was made Dr. Rathinasabapathi to approve this item with a change requested.
   This motion was approved. The grading policy needs to be clarified. It was suggested that a
   complete grading scale be included. The link to the Registrar’s website on grades (listed above)
   needs to be included with the scale.

Undergraduate New Course Proposals

4. SWS 4XXX – Sustainable Agricultural and Urban Land Management
   A motion was made by Dr. Porter to approve this item with changes requested. The
   motion was approved. As with item #2 it is not clear where class assignments/homework fall in
   the evaluation process and what the penalty is for homework not being turned in on time.
   Clarification is required for both.

5. ALS 4950 – CALS Leadership Institute Seminar 1
   (Items #5, #6 & #7 were reviewed together. One motion for all three)
   A motion was made by Dr. Gutter to approve these items with changes requested. The
   motion was approved. In the syllabus for item #5 please explain the need for the 3-ring binder
   (Reading packet, Handouts). Also for item #5, remove the percentages from the points section of
   the information on course evaluation. This will bring it in line with items #6 and #7.

6. ALS 4951 – CALS Leadership Institute Seminar 2
   See item #5.

7. ALS 4952 – CALS Leadership Institute International Service & Learning Experience
   See item #5.

Undergraduate Course Change Proposal
8. AEB 2451 – Valuing Environmental Protection in Florida

A motion was made by Dr. Gutter to approve this item with changes requested. The motion was approved. The course title needs to be updated on the syllabus and a course schedule needs to be included. Also, it was suggested that the statement about texting in class be clarified – is it referring to texting during class sessions or texting the instructor while enrolled in the instructor’s class.

Curriculum


A motion was made by Dr. Wysocki to approve this item as submitted. The motion was approved.

Conclusion
The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.