

# Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Date: 10/25/2023

Minutes: #4

## Members:

- Thomas Burr
- Susan Chen (Recording Secretary)
- Thomas Howe
- Sheryl Henry
- Joshua Newport (Chair)
- Tonya Pierce (Vice Chair)
- Yi Ren
- Bert Stabler
- Stef Gardiner-Walsh
- Allison Kroesch
- Sumesh Philip
- Tyvell Washington

UCC Executive Secretary: Amy Hurd

## Members Absent:

- Josh Newport
- Tyvell Washington

## Guests Present:

- Danielle Lindsey, Registrar's Office
- T.Y. Wang, POL/Legal Studies
- Jason Cieslik, POL/Legal Studies
- Pete Smudde, School of Communication
- Liz Chupp, School of Communication

### 1. Convene at 3:05 pm: Pierce

### 2. Minutes: Meeting #3 10/4/2023

Minutes approved with no changes.

### 3. Action Items:

- a. Sports Communication (New Major) – Howe and Gardiner-Walsh  
<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/NewProgramView.aspx?ID=434>

Howe provided an overview of the new major and asked about the prerequisites for the KNR 354 course. The course has prerequisites that are not required for this major. Smudde indicated that the School of Kinesiology and Recreation (KNR) has agreed to allow the Sports Communication majors to enroll in the KNR 354 course without having met the prerequisites. There is a letter of support from the Director of KNR attached to the proposal. Howe asked if the mentorship program is affiliated with a course. Smudde indicated that the mentorship could be affiliated with a professional practice or just an informal relationship with an alum/professional in the field. Internships are not required in the School of Communication; it is the student's choice. The mentorship program is also voluntary.

Gardiner-Walsh asked about where, in the curriculum, it includes accessibility as it relates to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI). Smudde explained that accessibility is a significant part of the sports industry and will be included in the program. The supporting document (New Degree Program application for the IBHE) explains how it is addressed.

Burr discussed how his department, Sociology, is very unlikely to hire another sports sociologist in the future to teach the SOC 317 course which is an elective. He asked if COM has sufficient faculty now and have plans for the future to teach sports communication courses. Smudde explained that they do have several faculty currently who are able to teach the sports communication courses, and we are confident that we will be able to hire new faculty in this area. There are graduate programs across the country that have specializations in sports communication so they are confident there will be a pool of faculty for future hires. Chupp explained that many faculty listed in the supporting document are excited to propose new courses for the program once the program

has a proven track record for enrollment.

Hurd clarified that the SOC 317 is cross listed with KNR so they are able to teach the course too. Admissions analyzes students' interests for majors and sports is one of the top 2 keywords used to search for programs.

Motion to approve the proposal: Howe

Second: Gardiner-Walsh

All in favor.

b. Legal Studies Major (Revision) – Chen and Philip

<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/ReviseProgramView.aspx?ID=1517>

Chen provided an overview of the proposed changes including, removing elective course options, and replacing POL 296 with 196 so students take the course earlier in their college career. The Criminal Justice Sciences courses were always major blocked, so students were not able to enroll in these course for major electives so they are being removed.

Motion to approve: Chen

Second: Philip

All in favor.

c. Health Promotion and Education Major, Public Health Accelerated Sequence (New Sequence) – Kroesch and Henry

<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/NewProgramView.aspx?ID=467>

Henry summarized the new sequence and how accelerated sequences help students progress into a master's program in the department. There was one issue with the proposal, the HSC 209 course is not fully approved. Kroesch indicated that the course number in the plan of study needs to be changed to 298a04, it is currently mistakenly listed as 298a02. Lindsey will make this edit on the proposal.

Motion to approve pending the approval of the new HSC 209 course: Kroesch

Second: Henry

All in favor.

**4. Liaison Assignments:**

a. **Council on General Education:** Nothing to report

b. **Council for Teacher Education:** Nothing to report

**5. Staff Report:** Nothing to report

**6. Motion to adjourn at 3:37 pm:** Kroesch

Second: Gardiner-Walsh