Queensborough Community College  
City University of New York

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE  
of the Academic Senate

Minutes of the November 7, 2006 Meeting

Present: Dr. Frank Cotty (Chair), Dr. S. Karimi, Dr. Anthony Kolios, Dr. Arthur Corradetti (ex-officio), Dr. Rosemary Iconis, Dr. Nora Tully, Dr. Emily Tai (secretary)  
Absent and Excused: Dr. Richard Yuster.

1. The minutes of the October 24, 2006 meeting were accepted and approved.

2. Members of the committee welcomed Dr. Jo Ann Wein and Dr. Cynthia Turner to discuss the course proposal for Art 328: History of African Arts. The course will cover continental African art from pre-historic times to the present, and will provide opportunities for students to study Queensborough Community College’s outstanding African Arts collection housed at the Queensborough Art Gallery. The course would articulate with Queens College as part of Queensborough’s proposed Museum Studies Program. Dr. Wein approved the suggestion of the Curriculum Committee that BE-122 and BE-122 will be considered prerequisites for the course.

3. Art 328, History of African Arts was unanimously approved.

4. The Curriculum Committee reviewed the revised syllabus that Dr. Lin-Martinez sent in support of her course proposal for LC 312: Readings in Contemporary Chinese Literature II. The revised syllabus now lists readings and requirements. The committee took note, however, that the current proposal lists as a second General Education goal that “students will use analytical reasoning skills and apply logic to solve problems.” It was recommended that this be changed to the college’s final General Education Learning Objective, “make informed judgments of the humanities and the arts as aesthetic and intellectual experiences.”

5. LC 312, Readings in Contemporary Chinese Literature was unanimously approved by the committee conditional upon this change.
6. The members of the Committee reviewed and discussed the recommendations forwarded by Patrick Wallach, Chair of the Distance Education Committee, which are scheduled for discussion at an open forum Wednesday, November 8, 2006, at 1 PM, in Science 220. Dr. Cotty will represent the committee’s concerns at this meeting, as follows:

- The pedagogical soundness of on-line learning for students in introductory courses should be queried.
  a. Do asynchronous courses provide the tutoring and instructor-student contact levels that current educational research suggests are desirable for students enrolled in introductory college-level courses, particularly those who have been required to complete developmental coursework, or who may have an ESL background?
  b. Should faculty be concerned that a student’s difficulties in an online course might constitute a disincentive to continue their QCC enrollment where enrollment in “traditional” classroom sections might not have been?
  c. Could students be evaluated prior to enrollment in on-line courses to establish their readiness to maintain the academic discipline success in an on-line learning environment requires?
  d. Could the college consider instituting assessment procedures to evaluate the impact of on-line instructional modalities on student learning outcomes?

- The curriculum of all distance learning courses, including on-line sections of courses also offered in classroom settings, should be vetted by the Curriculum Committee. This would allow the curriculum committee to evaluate modes of faculty-student interaction and assessment, as well as the way in which each instructor planned to meet and assess General Education Objectives in an asynchronous setting.

- The number of on-line courses that might be offered through the college in the context of this vetting process might thereafter be left to the discretion of individual departments.

7. Emily Tai will send notice of approved courses and conditions to Dr. Wein and Dr. Lin-Martinez, and extend an invitation to Dr. Valentino to present MT 368 at the next meeting of the Curriculum Committee, on November 21, 2006.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3.50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Tai
Secretary of the Curriculum Committee