

Minutes of the Curriculum Committee Subcommittee on Course Evaluation

The committee convened in Colston Hall Room 347 on Tuesday, March 23, 1999, at 2:15 p.m.

Members Present: Professors D. Gonsher, M. Kanuck, J. Ryan, M. Wenzel (chair)

Guests: Professors Fahey and Abdellatif

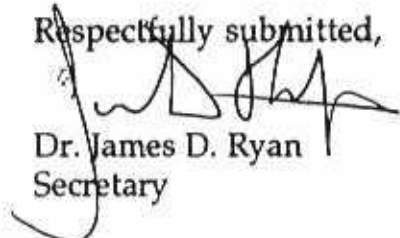
1. The minutes of the meetings of February 23 and March 9 were approved with minor corrections.
2. Professor Gonsher reported on the status of CMS 01 and CMS 09. CMS 01 is a course in oral English, originally designed to complement reading and writing remediation for ESL students. Students in CMS 01 would progress to CMS 10 (Phonetics), a credit course with appropriate academic content. There is, however, no CMS 01 in the present semester. Enrollment has declined probable due to the impact of CLIP. There is a text, syllabus, and instructor's guide for CMS 01, which is taught, when offered, by full-time faculty.
3. Concerning CMS 09. This course is for students with clinical speech pathologies (cleft pallet, victims of stroke, severe stutterers, etc) and is not a remedial course in the same sense as other courses under discussion in the Subcommittee this year. Such students are referred to CMS 09 (which has a maximum class size of five) in which they get intensive instruction. Instructors get one hour of workload credit for teaching this course; students receive no credit. There is generally one section per semester with an average enrollment of two. The course is successful in addressing special impediments. However, the college still does not have an ASHA certified pathologist on staff.
4. Professor Fahey reported concerning CHM 01. In his opinion, the course is in need of revision. The course is well-designed and has an excellent study guide, but he raised questions concerning its relevance to the college in its present form at this time. He noted that a departmental self-study for 1997/98 speaks of the course in glowing terms as viable and serving a useful purpose. That report, however, draws on data from the preceding five years and the profile it reports is not reflected over the last two years. Enrollment each semester in CHM 02 appears to be declining with fewer sections offered and with the percentage of graduates dropping. Because this course is the entry path for most students embarking upon the study of Chemistry, these declines bode ill for the Chemistry program. In addition, because there is no adequate check on prerequisites at registration, students who should be taking CHM 02 are enrolling directly into CHM 17 or other entry level course where they generally fair badly. In fact, he reports, the majority of entering students do need some kind of prep course for college-level Chemistry. The present five-hour course might serve this purpose better if it were revised or perhaps compressed so that fewer topics could be dealt

with more effectively in fewer hours. A revised course might have more emphasis on laboratory work and utilize computer-assisted instruction more effectively. Another alternative would be a new interdisciplinary course to assist under-prepared students to achieve readiness for study in Science whether Chemistry, Physics, or Biology. There are models for such a course at other units of City University and outside the University. Clearly, these must be looked at to see how we can better serve the needs of our students.

5. Concerning PHY 01. Professor Abdellatif reported that PHY 01 has not been offered for several years and that there are no plans to revive it. It was originally intended to serve the needs of students in PHY 31, Calculus-based Physics for Science majors. Physics 21 and subsequent courses provide Physics instruction for technology majors. Physics 11 is an introduction to Physics for the general student body. Professor Abdellatif believes that PHY 11 may be revised so that it will not require a MTH 06 prerequisite.
6. Concerning TYP 01. Professor Wenzel reported that he had been informed by Professor Morales, Chairperson of the Business Department, that TYP 01 is no longer offered and that there are no plans to revive it.

After receiving this testimony the committee reviewed its findings to date and its charge, and initiated discussion of its final report. This discussion will continue at the next scheduled meeting of April 13 at 2 p.m. in Colston Hall Room 347.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. James D. Ryan
Secretary