

Interdepartmental Courses

Text of the approved Senate motion

Motion: To endorse revising the procedures for reviewing and administering INTD courses in accordance with the guidelines detailed below.

Background

INTD courses are dealt with under the authority of the Provost's Office. Currently, the Individualized & Interdisciplinary Studies Program (IISP) Committee acts as an INTD Committee *pro tem*, fulfilling the review and decision-making functions of a departmental-level curricula and courses committee and the Associate Deans' Committee fulfills the review and decision-making functions of a school or college-level curricula and courses committee. The following guidelines revise the INTD Curricula and Courses review procedure by creating a faculty chaired INTD C&C committee that is dedicated to reviewing INTD courses and by clarifying the role of the IISP Director in the process.

Guidelines

1. The IISP Director will continue to act as the administrative Head for the INTD course category. This arrangement will ensure consistency of approach for new course proposal development and approval, as well as facilitate coordination and ensure consistency of curricular administration of existing courses.
2. The provost will appoint an INTD Curricula and Courses Committee that will convene at least once per semester for the purpose of considering INTD matters. This INTD C&C committee will include at least one faculty member from each of the UCONN colleges and schools with undergraduate courses.
 - The INTD C&C Committee will serve as a combined departmental and college/school-level Curricula and Courses Committee for INTD courses. The Committee will elect a faculty member as Chair.
 - This Committee will review and must approve all new INTD courses and significant revisions of existing courses.
 - Course proposal documents will be made available sufficiently far ahead of each meeting of the INTD Committee for there to be consultation with and notice by interested parties in the Schools and Colleges.
 - i. Copies of the course proposal documents will be posted on an INTD Committee website.
 - ii. Chairs of Curricula and Courses Committees and the Associate Deans for Undergraduate Education in each School and College will receive copies of INTD Committee agendas and related papers at the same time as Committee members.
 - Courses that require Senate approval will be forwarded to the appropriate Senate committees (e.g., GEOC or Senate C&C Committee) after approval by the INTD C&C committee.
3. The IISP department will administer the INTD course approval process, including publicizing INTD course policy and practice. But, in general, administration of INTD courses (including, scheduling, faculty evaluation, reporting to OIR) will rest with the program or department that incorporates the INTD course within a recognized academic program.
4. The IISP Director will report once a year on all aspects of INTD policy and practice: first, to the INTD Committee; then, to the Vice Provost and Deans; and finally, to the Senate. In addition, the IISP Director will summarize INTD course data – course offerings, instructors, student numbers, and highlighting new initiatives – as a supplement to the INTD report and from which to extract data to send to the instructors' Department Heads every spring (a copy will be provided to the instructors themselves).

From Scholastic Standards Committee report, Senate Meeting, May 1, 2006
<http://senate.uconn.edu/Report.20060501.SSC.INTDmotion.htm>

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