

Journalism Meeting Minutes 10/19/11

In attendance: Lori Medigovich, Kate Mc Laughlin, Elise Geraghty

Lori and Kate's October 14-15 JACC conference was a great success. Multiple awards were won. Lori and Kate received beautiful flowers today from Jolene Combs' family to congratulate them on a successful JACC conference. They (our amazing instructors, not the flowers) will be featured in the upcoming *Community News*.

COURSE REPEATABILITY

Kate and Lori are concerned about the discussion about eliminating or reducing course repeatability because of the effect on Journalism 3, 7, 9, 11 and 14. They would like to be up to date on the latest news regarding this. Kate noted that exceptions have been outlined for dance and can't understand why journalism wouldn't rank at least at the same as dance. Lori will write her own version of a justification for maintaining repeatability for journalism classes.

Lori also noted that most of their JACC colleagues, in order to avoid the problem of reduced/eliminated repeatability, have set up such courses as separate courses with titles such as "beginning," "intermediate," and "advanced." Kate and Lori are willing to write outlines for such courses. Lori noted that some courses are taught at the same time by the same instructor to prevent extra cost. Elise noted that Foreign Language does exactly this. They wonder if they should wait to see what happens in terms of repeatability guidelines or start on this right away just in case. Tom's guidance is asked for.

TMC FOR JOURNALISM MAJOR/DEGREE

On October 14th, Kate attended a State Faculty Senate Discipline Interest Group discussion regarding the proposed Journalism 1440 transfer degree (notes attached).

There is great concern over the possibility of a journalism degree that requires only 6 units of journalism classes. Journalism 1 and Journalism 12 are readily accepted as degree applicable, but there is some resistance on the part of the CSU's (CSUN, CSULB) in particular about accepting production classes because of possible accreditation problems. The CSU's cannot require students to take a course that they have already taken at a community college. Kate and Lori want at least 3 units of production classes to count. One suggestion was to load up on electives, but the question remains: If the degree is 18 units, shouldn't more than half of those 18 units be in journalism?

The JACC is trying to come up with a solution to present as a group. Elise suggested asking if our classes could serve as a lower division requirement, while the courses taken at the four-year institution serve as upper division requirements. Kate is going to inquire about this.

There is a possibility that Journalism 14, Multimedia Journalism, will be accepted because most universities don't offer the class. Also, photojournalism (Journalism 6 or 7ab) is also acceptable. Kate and Lori want Journalism 9 and/or Journalism 11 to be accepted. This would create a degree that requires 16 units of journalism, which is acceptable.

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL: NEWS LITERACY

Kate and Lori attended a workshop for a new journalism course: News Literacy. Both favor this course because it distinguishes itself from Journalism 12, Mass Media and Society, by focusing not only journalism history, but also on how news impacts students' lives and how we can become better consumers. This course fulfills the critical thinking requirement. Which category might it fit under the Associate in Arts Degree Requirements (page 37 course catalog)?

Lori and Kate are willing to do the work to propose this course; the course can be written to include the same writing requirement as an English 1C course. Might it serve as an alternative to English 1C as a fulfillment for the critical thinking requirement? This could boost Journalism's enrollment, add another class that could be degree applicable (for Journalism), and address the growing need for education in the face of the "digital revolution."

Recorder: Elise Geraghty