Minutes

DLS Curriculum Committee

October 23, 2012

Meeting called to order on Centra platform at 7:30 pm

Attendance: Tavia Clark, Jane Blackburn, Lou Sua, Jami Jones

Absent: Kristin Johnson, Robin Boltz (excused), John Harer

**New Business:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. The minutes were read, discussed, and accepted.

Sua and Jones discussed the findings from the curriculum workshop held the previous day, Monday, October 22. We discussed Drs. Paul’s and Flint’s comments. Dr. Paul described the importance of the 6 Cs (collaboration, communication, creativity, cultural competence, critical thinking, and computer knowledge). He described the stages of curriculum revision that he and the faculty in the Department of Management Information Systems travelled. These were: identifying the state of the curriculum; external review of other peer programs; interview employers regarding skills needed in the field; articulate programs strengths and weaknesses as well as opportunities and challenges; curriculum mapping, course revisions, and constant assessing. This committee is clearly involved in the first three steps.

Dr. Flint discussed the importance if identifying what we want students to be able to do at the end of this program. What evolved from discussion with her was a “wish” list of items to consider. These are: additional clinical experiences for students throughout the program; ability to conduct personal interviews to determine if applicants are suited for this profession and will benefit from the MLS;
identifying and focusing on dispositions; determine employer needs; increased emphasis on advocacy and grantwriting; and identify what we want student to be able to do at the end of the program.

At the DLS Curriculum Committee meeting on September 25, 2012, the Committee expressed the need to focus on dispositions, behaviors, attitudes, and “soft skills,” which was a discussion continued at the October 23 meeting. The group felt that Paul’s 6 Cs were a good initial framework for curriculum revision.

Tavia Clark mentioned that more field experience is essential and agreed with the 6C framework. The group agreed to implement the 6C framework to one course—collection development. Clark discussed that collection development in the school environment is much more than the physical collection.

Clark also brought up the idea of personal learning networks so that our students will learn to connect with people and associations to continue to develop their skills, which led to agreement that students needed increased opportunities to interact with practitioners.

LIBS 6137, 6142, 6144, and 6991 have undergone some revision to increase opportunities for collaboration and address dispositions. LIBS 6135 is in the process of revision and will provide opportunities for collaboration.

**Old Business:**

Clark reported on the school library program at Appalachian State University. What sets this program apart from others is the focus on community action research. Students are encouraged to engage in multiple clinical experiences. In addition, App State is known for its 3D learning environment. Blackburn described UNC-Greensboro’s program that is more generic.

**Action Points:**

The Committee agreed on the following action points:
1. That DLS provide webinar opportunities for students to interact with school, public, and academic librarians to learn about real world issues. Clark will identify webinars that would interest school library students. Blackburn mentioned that public librarians are looking for opportunities to collaborate with school librarians and will consider some topics. Jones and Sua will discuss with the faculty potential topics for webinars.

2. Consider the possibility for school librarians to have more electives and options within the program.

3. Clark will review LIBS 6018 Collection Development in light of the changes we have discussed. Changes to this course will be discussed at the next meeting—November 27, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

The next meeting is November 27, 2012