July 15, 2016, 11:00 am

LIBS Curriculum Committee Minutes

Present: Kaye Dotson, Barbara Marson, Lou Sua, Elaine Yontz, John Harer

Dotson welcomed the members to the Mid-Summer 2016 Curriculum meeting. Yontz gave an update on the progress in moving proposals through the Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC) process. Yontz distributed materials on the proposals for members to review. A final decision on the need for a youth literature course for the public library concentration was needed and called for. Although this will leave only one elective for the public concentration, it was agreed unanimously that all students in this concentration would take one of the literature courses that we offer. Yontz agreed to include that in the proposal process.

Sua provided an overview of some advising issues relating to curriculum. Advisors need to pay attention to the students’ prerequisites for courses. Lou reminded us to check an advisee’s transcript before giving advice on courses to take. As attention to these issues can smooth the way for both students and faculty, Sua agreed to share further with the entire MLS faculty at our August program meeting. Sua suggested that we have someone from the graduate school discuss Degreeworks with the faculty, possibly at the first fall meeting. Sua’s concerns about courses being taken out of the prescribed order led directly to the agenda item of course rotation. It was agreed that having a rotation in place with both course caps and minimums adhered to could help with planning. Specific courses to be offered in fall and/or spring were proposed. As public and academic concentrations are clearly on the rise, as reported by Sua, the needed courses for those areas must be included too. It was humorously, but accurately, stated that we want to offer a “menu, rather than a buffet” so careful attention to course offerings is warranted. Summer sessions, both 11 week and 5.5 weeks were discussed briefly as well. We will pilot selected courses in the 5.5 weeks summer 2017 session.

Marson reported on a couple of web issues that have been resolved or are in the process of being corrected. Marson plans on changing our wording on the web page from pathway to concentration. Marson shared that she is getting Strecker’s information to include in the directory also. Dotson expressed appreciation that the internship forms are all easily found and clearly accessible now on the website.

Due to time, discussion of the spring curriculum workshop with faculty and alumni was tabled until the fall curriculum meeting.

Meeting was adjourned