

ECE Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes for April 17, 2009

Members present: Tanguil Basar, Stephen Bishop, Stephen Boppart, Patrick Chapman, Kent Choquette, Matthew Frank, Douglas Jones, Erhan Kudeki, Stephen Levinson, Jonathan Makela, Pramod Viswanath

Guests: Gary Swenson

1. The Minutes of the April 3 and 10, 2009 meetings were approved.
2. The following courses from Speech and Hearing Science were approved for technical elective credit: SHS 200, 240, 300, 301, 320, 450, and 470.
3. Steve Levinson was persuaded to propose a technical electives list for Linguistics.
4. Gary Swenson decribed the current writing assignments in ECE 445 and the changes that would be made to satisfy the campus Advanced Composition requirement. While the course already involves a great deal of writing, including laboratory notebooks, a design proposal, a design review document, a final report, and materials for an oral presentation, the majority of these are team documents. An individual eight-page report would be required after the design review (approximately midway during the semester) in which each student would document their own background research for the project and their specific prospective contributions toward its completion. Two weeks before the end of the semester, each student would submit a 12-page individual final report, which would presumably be merged into the team final report. Each of the assignments would be reviewed for English usage by the ECE Publications Office. Gary assured us that he has discussed the workload and timing with Jamie Hutchinson and confirmed that this will not overload them.

Several Committee members were concerned that there was insufficient focus on the organization and exposition of technical content in the writing (as opposed to English grammar and usage) and expressed the opinion that this is even more important. They recommended that the material be critiqued for technical aspects in the first round so that the rewrite addresses this aspect as well; Gary promised to consider that.

5. The Committee adjourned at 3:55 PM.

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