Minutes

DLS Curriculum Committee

November 27, 2012

Meeting called to order on Centra platform at 7:37 pm

Attendance: Robin Boltz, Tavia Clark, Kristin Johnson, John Harer, Jami Jones, Lou Sua

Absent: Jane Blackburn

New Business:

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. The minutes were read, discussed, and accepted. Robin Boltz abstained from accepting the minutes as she was excused from the October meeting.

At the October meeting, Tavia Clark volunteered to read the LIBS 6018 syllabus and suggest changes to the Collection Development course.

The following concerns about LIBS 6018 were identified and discussed:

1. The textbooks are older, and newer texts that incorporate the digital changes in collection development need to be identified. Robin Boltz volunteered to identify texts that may be appropriate. Given changes in collection development, such as ebooks and etextbooks, it is important that students be provided a reading list of recent as well as seminal articles about digital collections.

2. Clark recognized that the topics covered in this course are relevant; she suggested that perhaps topics could be combined to create larger and more complex assignments. Jones suggested that some of these topics might be discussed in the blog feature of Black Board.
3. Opportunities to learn about grantwriting have been identified as a topic that needs more coverage. Robin Boltz mentioned that few grants are available for collection development; the committee at some point will want to identify how to include grantwriting in a course, or two. Students and alumni who attended the Saturday, July 14, 2012 workshop identified grantwriting [as well as advocacy] as topics needing additional coverage. At the May 9, 2012 faculty curriculum workshop it was suggested that an assignment in LIBS 6018 contain a grantwriting component.

5. Clark identified the value of Professional Learning Networks and collaboration to learn about digital resources that are part of a collection.

4. Specifically, Clark did not understand the value of “global” in Unit Six; however, she suggested opportunities for students to learn about collection development that supports a global imperative.

5. Clark suggested the use of additional technologies throughout this class as well as others. Previously this committee has identified the importance of integrating technology in all courses so students will be more tech savvy upon graduation.

6. The artifact for the course—a collection development policy—incurred considerable discussion. Clark brought up the possibility of students producing a policy in multimedia format that could be uploaded to the school library’s website. Jones wondered about the potential of plagiarism; the many collection development policies available on the Internet are ripe for copying and pasting. Additionally, many schools have policies. The committee felt that the better assignment for the artifact would be a project to analyze and develop a particular section of the collection. Students would be required to deselect items, select items, read reviews, understand the standards that would inform the development of the collection, and use data to drive their collection decisions. Data that could inform these decisions would be quantitative data from the
circulation system, identification of teachers (and content areas) who are actively using the library’s collection, and test scores that suggest an emphasis on particular content areas.

7. The group felt that opportunities to identify and use data to support collection development decisions are important.

Jones and Sua led a brief discussion about courses that need revising. The age levels for LIBS 6135 Materials for Children and LIBS 6137 Materials for Young Adults are not consistent with ALA’s age ranges for children and youth and NCATE’s focus on PK-grade 12 literacy. Jones and Sua proposed the age range for LIBS 6135 to be PK-grade 5. The age range for LIBS 6137 to be youth in grades 6 to 12. The curriculum committee concurred with this change. These changes will require Jones and Sue to complete the course change materials and progress through ECU’s various curriculum committees.

LIBS 6137 Materials for Young Adults, which was revised in the summer, and first taught in the fall, worked well, but is being tweaked a bit. LIBS 6135 Materials for Children needs redesign. This is a course that has been identified in curriculum workshops as needing revision. Johnson, Clark, and Boltz volunteered to examine this course, and discuss their findings at the January 2013 curriculum committee meeting.

Jones and Sua will make some revision to LIBS 6042 Technology to revise graduate catalog wording that needs to be changed.

At the January 22, 2013, Boltz, Clark, and Johnson will lead a discussion about changes to LIBS 6135 Materials for Children.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

Action Points:

The Committee agreed on the following:

1. The need to integrate additional technology is all courses.
2. To revise LIBS 6018 per Clark’s and other committee members’ comments.

3. To change age levels for the literature courses LIBS 6135 and 6137.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next DLA curriculum committee meeting is January 22, 2013.

Other Tuesday DLS curriculum committee meetings are February 26, March 26, and April 23. At the April meeting we are charged as a committee to discuss and order changes to the curriculum that will become part of a curriculum plan. Areas of agreement are identified under Action Points.