The Listing of Disciplines in the Course Outline of Record

Adopted by the Santa Rosa Junior College Academic Senate

September 19, 2018

Preamble:

One responsibility of the Academic Senate, under number one of the 10 plus one—Curriculum--is to assign courses to disciplines, in which task, of course, it oversees and coordinates the judgments of the faculty in the respective disciplines. The clarity of process and communication of which discipline or disciplines a course belongs to is of vital importance, as the disciplinary qualifications for each course must be met as a matter not only of law, but of professional standards of excellence. In the state of California, an official list of recognized disciplines and their minimum qualification is maintained and updated every year. The document is produced by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges and approved by the Board of Governors. The current version can be found at www.asccc.org under "Resources." The COR (Course Outline of Record) is the principle location where the curricular requirements reside to which each faculty member teaching the course is bound by contract to conform. It is therefore the judgment of the Academic Senate that the COR must specify which discipline or disciplines any faculty member assigned to the course must have to qualify to teach it, and that the discipline(s) listed must correspond to the Disciplines List.

Current Problems:
1. There are 128 disciplines listed in the Disciplines List that do not exist in any SRJC COR.
2. There are 49 Disciplines listed in SRJC CORs that do not correspond to any discipline listed on the Disciplines List.
3. There are 31 disciplines listed in SRJC CORs that are close to, but not exactly the same as the corresponding Disciplines List discipline.
4. There are 450 SRJC CORs that list more than one discipline. Listing more than one discipline is allowed, but it is absolutely crucial that a listing of disciplines specify whether the faculty member must have a.) ANY OF the disciplines listed, or b) ALL OF the disciplines listed. Currently there is no easy way in our SIS to specify "and" and "or" in the disciplines section.
5. The special case of "Interdisciplinary Studies" needs to be clarified. The Disciplines List says this about the designation "Interdisciplinary": "(NOTE: The Interdisciplinary Studies discipline is provided to allow for those cases where it is locally determined that a course must be taught by someone with qualifications that exceed a single discipline. The constituent disciplines can include any disciplines found in the Master's List.)"
6. A large measure of the problem lies with how Non-Credit disciplines are listed.

Solutions:

1. **The Academic Senate requests** that the Curriculum office collect by department the CORs which don't align with the Disciplines List, or that list more than one discipline, and inform the department chairs.

2. **The Academic Senate requests** that the Curriculum Office and the IT department collaborate to effect the following features and options in SIS:
      a) A list of discipline options in our SIS that corresponds to the state Disciplines List
      b) A mechanism by which AND, OR, OLDER ADULTS, NON-CREDIT, and INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES may be specified and utilized in the COR
      c) Remove all "(master's required)" from the disciplines boxes in the COR

3. **The Academic Senate requests that** each department that has any problematic CORs contact the Academic Senate office to arrange a meeting with the Academic Senate president to help solve the problem on an individual basis.