

Faculty Senate
January 21, 2008
4 p.m.
Olin 124

Faculty Senate unanimously approved a motion brought by the Senate Coordinating Committee to change Concordia's course-counting system to a credit-based system.

Dean Mark Krejci explained the rationale for the motion. Unless Concordia counts courses in semester-credit hours, the college's new Banner computing system would have to build an expensive "shadow system" to count course credits. He also said the course system confuses prospective students and causes additional work for people in the Registrar's Office, who must convert incoming credit hours to courses and vice versa.

Zach Kenz (SGA) asked if the motion would lead to three-credit-hour courses. Krejci replied that the motion would keep the current course plan but count them as credit hours.

Polly Fassinger (Sociology) asked if the motion would change the college's acceptance of three-credit-hour transfer credits in meeting Core requirements. Only the counting would change, Krejci said; what now transfers in as .75 would come in as a 3-credit-hour course.

Nick Ellig (Sociology) said that was bothered by the word "should" in the sentence in the rationale that reads: "Yet, the essence of the course plan (faculty with 3 preps per semester and students taking 4 courses) should remain." Krejci instructed the faculty secretary to note in the minutes that "should" was to be replaced by "will."

The discussion and vote followed approval of minutes from the previous meeting and approval of the agenda. There were no consent items on the agenda.

Senate adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

The approved motion reads as follows:

Motion #1:

Given: that Concordia College wishes to keep the operational structure of our current "course plan" system (i.e. faculty with three course credit preps and students typically taking 4 course credits with each course the equivalent to a 4-credit semester hour class),

and

Given: that Concordia could switch to a credit system while maintaining the essence of the course plan (i.e. typically faculty teaching three "4 credit" preps and students taking "4 credit courses" with 2-credit block courses and 2-credit wellness and activity courses)

and

Given: that the college is already needing to operate a shadow credit system with the shadow system to cost the college even more money in the future.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate agrees to move to a credit based system with typical classes bearing the amount of credit stated below:

<u>Old System</u>	<u>New System</u>
1 credit	4-credits
.5 credit	2-credits
.25 credit	1-credit

that current alternatives from the 1, .5 and .25 system will continue but these classes will now carry the appropriate amount of “semester hour credits” (e.g. Educ 498 Student Teaching – currently at 2.5 “course plan credits” but would now carry 10 “semester hour credits”)

that faculty load faculty load would remain at it current level: now typically 3 “course plan credit” courses moving to 3 4-semester hour credit courses.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine McMullen
Faculty Secretary