**New York City College of Technology**

**Interdisciplinary Committee**

March 31, 2015

Reneta D. Lansiquot, Founding Chair

Sean P. MacDonald, Secretary

**Present**: Reneta D. Lansiquot, Sean P. MacDonald, Monica Berger, Candido Cabo, Gwen Cohen Brown, Aida Egues, Urmi Ghosh-Dastidar, Ezra Halleck, Jean Hillstrom, Laina Karthikeyan, Paul King, Janet Liou-Mark, Laureen Park, Olufemi Sodeinde

**Absent:** Dionne Bennett, Reginald Blake, Johannah Rodgers, Rebecca Shapiro

**Excused:** Robert Leston, Andleeb Zameer

1. Approval of minutes was tabled until the next meeting due to technical problems.
2. Reneta presented a course for recommendation vote.
* **ENG 1161 Language and Thinking**

Rebecca Shapiro and Jean Hillstrom

Gwen summarized her review of the course and saw no issues; the course would be co-taught and would be writing intensive; it meets the definition of an ID course. Laina also spoke to the strengths of the course as it scaffolds assignments to a final project. Gwen noted that this looks like a lot of work; Jean pointed out that she had this before as a Learning Community with Rebecca, so they both have had experience with this format.

Motion to approve: Gwen; seconded: Candido. Recommended unanimously.

1. Jean (Co-Chair Existing Courses subcommittee) presented a course for recommendation vote.
* **SBS 2000 Research Methods for the Behavioral and Social Sciences**

Sean MacDonald

Reneta summarized the current application considers amendments to two current ID courses, SBS 2000 and ECON 2505; the form proposes a change of format for a new section of an existing course. For fall 2015, two additional sections of SBS 2000 would be co-taught by an Economist and a Psychologist. One section of ECON 2505 would be co-taught by a Sociologist and an Economist.

Motion to approve the revised format for section of CON 2505: Jean; Paul seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SBS 2000: two new sections of this course will be offered in fall 2015; both sections would be co-taught.

Motion to approve SBS 2000 as IDS co-taught: Jean; seconded by Candido; approved unanimously.

Ezra requested clarification of the distinction between the catalog description of ECON 2505 and the course description on the original ID application; description on the application can be more detailed, while the catalog description must be shorter.

1. Sean proposed a short form for changed ID format of an existing course or a new section.

Sean summarized rationale for the form as it creates a simple process for proposing a change of format for a new section of an existing course without having to revisit the original application; this is useful when the course focus and content are not being changed – only the teaching format.

Reneta asked whether there were any suggestions for revisions to the proposed form. Jean asked whether we need to specify the course section(s) to distinguish which sections would have the revised format. Sean indicated that this would not be necessary because the purpose of the form is to distinguish new sections of an existing ID course.

Jean also suggested that a field be added to the form to identify the name of the proposer. Paul suggested that the form could clarify the change in format for a new section by specifying ‘from’ and ‘to.’

Reneta motioned to approve the new form with the proposed amendments; Candido seconded.

Also suggested that each form submitted should specify who will be co-teaching and the specialties of invited guest lecturers and that the minimum 20% guest lecturer field be added to the form.

Reneta motioned to approve the new form with the proposed amendments; Candido seconded.

1. Reneta presented the most up-to-date version of the ID courses brochure for students.

Monica noted that this version excludes PSY 2404 from the list of ID courses; Jean reported that her application for ID designation for a section of this course was not complete, but that she would work on getting this out as soon as possible so that the course can be evaluated in time for the next meeting. The brochure can be distributed at the Research Mixer; there were some final proposals that some of the symbols denoting various disciplines be modified and some new ones added for the final version.

1. Urmi presents plans for IDC at the Research Mixer, Wednesday afternoon, May 6, 2015.

The focus of short talks by those presenting descriptions of their courses should be on selling the course and the whole idea of ID courses; the target audience will be students. The schedule is supposed to be finalized by April 20. Descriptions and a list of ID courses that will be offered in fall 2015 will be on the brochure for the May 27workshop; 100 copies will be made.

1. Reneta and Paul presented tentative plans for IDC workshop, May 27, 2015

Paul noted the time scheduled for the workshop would be about two to three hours; the specific time slot has not been set. Right now it will be held sometime between 9 AM and 4 PM.

The format for the workshop will include quick introductions to courses; guided brainstorming on potential ID courses. We want to ask people about planning an ID course. We are looking to reach out to anyone interested in transforming an existing course into an ID course and anyone interested in participating in and facilitating a workshop

Reneta asked if anyone would be able to re-convene for a brief meeting on Tuesday, April 14 to vote on the PSY 2404 course, and other agenda items. We will meet at 2:00 PM in Faculty Commons.

1. Next regularly scheduled meeting: Tuesday, April 28 at 2:15 PM in the Faculty Commons.

Motion to adjourn: Laina; Candido seconded.