

**From:** Lewallen, Fred D  
**Sent:** Friday, December 06, 2013 11:01 AM  
**To:** Fishman, Sarah; Morales, Jeanette F; Boger, Carl (cboger@uh.edu); Evans, Ian; Kelley, Frank W; Kirkland, Lannis; Koszegi, Jodie (jfkoszegi@uh.edu); Lewallen, Fred (lewallen@uh.edu); Pierson, Melissa E; Shattuck, David P; Smesny, Andrea L  
**Cc:** Rao, Jagannatha R  
**Subject:** RE: University Coordinating Commission (UCC): Associate Deans' Response Needed for UCC Agenda Item (UCC 0314 13F)

Dear Jeanette and AD Colleagues,

I would like to add my comments in support of Dr. Fishman. Many of the programs in the College of Technology contain courses that need to stay current with the newest technology. Of course, basic principles don't change rapidly but some junior and senior level courses need to be at the cutting edge of technology to provide our graduates with the knowledge they need to compete for jobs. Even now we find CC transfer students arriving with advanced knowledge that we won't teach until the following year. We need the course and catalog approval process to happen more quickly, not more slowly.

As we hire highly qualified new faculty at UH, I often am embarrassed to have to inform them that they can't immediately start the great new courses they brought with them. We do use Special Topics and Special Problems courses to help with this matter, but those methods are not good solutions to our slow and wieldy process of approval.

The current UCC proposal for catalog changes certainly will move us closer to being a traditional, big ol' slow (ivy covered?) university. With computers and networks we can maintain the needed tradition and still enact appropriate changes in a more timely manner than the UCC proposal allows. This proposal seems like a giant step backwards as we attempt to make UH the best it can be.

Fred

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**From:** Fishman, Sarah [mailto:histl@Central.UH.EDU]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 6, 2013 9:41 AM  
**To:** Morales, Jeanette F; Boger, Carl (cboger@uh.edu); Evans, Ian; Kelley, Frank W; Kirkland, Lannis; Koszegi, Jodie

(jfkoszegi@uh.edu); Lewallen, Fred (lewallen@uh.edu); Pierson, Melissa E; Shattuck, David P; Smesny, Andrea L

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Some of you are well aware of my feelings. This pushes things back, such that it will take 1 ½ years to get a new course into the inventory, not a year. For catalogue changes, even minor ones, which now can be sent to the UC by March 1 and be in the catalog by the very next Fall semester, now they can still be submitted in the spring of one year, but won't take effect until a full year after the following fall.

So, a department submits a change to a minor, adding a course to the list or something simple, any time in any given year, but it cannot be in effect until the year AFTER the next year, ie submit the memo January 2014, effective not Fall 2014, or Spring 2015, but Fall 2015.

This is not an improvement in my opinion. I understand that having changes in place can help students as they plan in the spring for the following Fall's courses, but I think we're putting the cart in front of the horse here and making departmental/program planning a process that will take WAY too much time and will frustrate faculty, chairs, directors, and , because I get the moaning and groaning, me.

I'm also less than thrilled to be even more brutally honest, that having shepherded the usual CLASS business of nearly 200 new courses and 10+ memos through to submission for this round, I'm now going to have to announce a new round for this spring and manage that, or else have to tell everyone that if they send things in next year, even by the first day of the semester, they'll have to wait not until Fall 2015 but Fall 2016.

I was clearly outnumbered and had no support from the members of the UC when the memo came up, so I dropped it and did not vote against it. But I still have strong reservations, and was just asked to share my comments, so here they are! Take them or leave them, no hard feelings, just crankiness, to which, at my age, I feel entitled!

Sarah

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