As chair of the SLA Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, I am pleased to offer the following report on the committee’s work during 2005 – 2006.

MEMBERS
Serving on the committee this year were Anita Ashendel, Department of History; Jonathan Burke, Department of Economics; Tom Davis, Department of Religious Studies; Richard Gunderman, Department of Philosophy; and Michael Snodgrass, Department of History, (Agenda Council Representative.) Catherine Souch, former Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, served ex officio in the fall semester, with Marianne Wokeck, current Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, joining the committee in January 2006.

MEETINGS
The committee met six times during the academic year (September 9, 2005; October 14, 2005; November 11, 2005; December 16, 2005; January 26, 2006; and April 19, 2006.) In addition, several meetings were conducted electronically.

ACTIONS
We considered and approved 14 new course requests, 21 variable title course requests, and 4 course changes. Three new course requests are still pending. In addition, we approved a major in International Studies and certificates in Performance and Theatre Studies and Traditional and Mediated Communication Strategies, as well as changes to the International Studies minor and the Spanish major. A list of courses and programs considered by the committee is attached. Please contact Rebecca Renollet for status reports on pending requests.

The committee also considered and approved a proposal to merge the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the Standards and Policies Committee. This proposal will be brought forward to the faculty at the April 21, 2006 assembly. The committee also revised the syllabus checklist, adding suggested language for essential sections, and presented it for the faculty’s approval at the February 2006 assembly. The checklist was not approved due to questions about the rationale for reviewing syllabi, an established practice of the committee. The committee tabled further discussion of the checklist until a decision is made about the committee merger, since it will fall under the purview of the new committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS
The committee discussed the following procedural changes to facilitate review of course requests in the future:

- Consider variable title requests only at the end of the two year period when they will be submitted as new courses.
- Test an online course request form by submitting one to Bloomington. If it goes through, replace the triplicate typed form used since 1977 with the online version.
- Send email reminders on the SLA listserv about upcoming deadlines for requests two weeks prior to each deadline.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
On behalf of the committee, I wish to thank Rebecca Renollet, who handled the committee’s scheduling and communication, including written responses to course requests. The committee is grateful for her dedication to ensuring the successful functioning of the committee. I also wish to thank the committee members for their diligent analysis of the course requests presented to us.

Submitted by Julie Freeman, Chair, 2005-2006 SLA Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Enclosure