

EPC minutes: December 1, 2011

Present: Armand Gillinsky (Chair), Elaine Sundberg, Carmen Works, Mary Dingle, Joe Marquez, Christina Baker, Melinda Milligan, Amy Kittlestrom, Paul Ramey, Jeffrey Reeder (minutes)

Minutes approved (Carmen Works moved, Melinda Milligan seconded)

Program review subcommittee meeting Wednesday, December 7.

Armand Gillinsky report:

Student center approved

\$9-13 billion deficit will trigger further cuts

Upcoming business: Theater Arts moving from 3-4 units

Elaine Sundberg reported on registration glitches. There is now a procedure for students who have missed their registration times, whereby they are given a new chance at Pass 1. Next week, there is to be a limitation of 12 units, and the registration window is open for the entire week. There is an 18 unit cap for all students, but the petition process allows students to go over the 18 units, provided they follow the proper procedure (petition) – in this case, deans will also need to sign, not just the chairs/advisors, but the ‘hard cap’ remains at 23 units.

Jeffrey Reeder report from grad studies subcommittee – that the committee is creating a task force to consider the best practices for those programs that have been operating through Extended Education.

Armand Gillinsky noted that there is an agenda item on the Senate calendar, which is a discussion of adding veterans and former foster youth to the groups of students who are accorded priority registration. He also noted that the GE committee discussed the increase from 3 to 4 units among certain A&H GE courses.

Elaine Sundberg distributed a draft of the new schedule for 2012-2017. She remarked that there had been several criteria that had been adhered to, including a preference for César Chávez day to not coincide with the spring break week, and that there not be a day ‘dangling’ by itself as the only instructional day during a given week. Additional constraints were reiterated (e.g., number of instructional days in the semester, advising day, freshman orientations and testing, etc.). Student housing officials were reportedly in favor of instruction beginning on Tuesdays (as opposed to Wednesdays), since most students move in during the preceding weekend. In sum, there were no significant objections among the groups of people representing affected constituencies regarding the proposed start dates. Two options were given for each academic year for spring breaks. Past practice had been to make spring break conform to the ‘local school districts’, which in turn often were built around certain religious holidays. However, this practice doesn’t seem to hold true

anymore, and local districts (of which there are many) don't even seem to coincide with each other. There was continued discussion and commentary about spring break.

Joe Marquez moves, Carmen Works seconds, that the calendar proposed be accepted, with the following spring break weeks selected: spring break shall begin on 18 Mar 2013, 17 Mar 2014, 16 Mar 2015, 14 Mar 2016, and 13 Mar 2017. Motion carries, unanimous.

Discussion of Academic Calendar Guidelines led by Elaine Sundberg. Of the consideration points on the list, #7 (re: spring break) was modified so that it no longer matches local schools but rather falls closer to the middle of the semester, either weeks 8, 9, or 10. #9 is excised altogether, as YRO is no longer a reality and summer sessions are no longer state-supported.

Discussion about Academic Calendar Guideline item #6: whether or not there should be a statement about the length of the intersession calendar. The model proposed for this current year also includes three weeks of instruction, but there is a week before the New Year holiday and two weeks after. There is also a brief period of overlap this year in which the intersession classes are ending at or even after the regular session classes begin.

Carmen Works moves and Jeffrey Reeder seconds that the proposed modifications to the Academic Calendar Guidelines be approved. Motion carries unanimously.

Carmen Works reports that Sam Brannan led a discussion on the method for accepting classes that are moving from 3 units to 4 units. It will go to Ex Com next. The way the current policy reads, area A and area C are exempt, but it was pointed out at that meeting (by Brian Wilson) that not all A&H GE courses are necessarily 4 units.

Joe Marquez moved to adjourn, Jeffrey Reeder seconds. Meeting adjourns @ 12:21.