

Educational Policies Committee Minutes

April 14, 2011

Members Present: E. Newman, T. Stearns, S. Cabaniss, A. Gilinsky, L. Watt, A. Kittelstrom, L. Lee, L. Morrow, A. Boyar, M. Dingle (minutes).

Reports

1. Chair of EPC (EN)

- Nursing BSN revision and Kinesiology Physical Education consent items on Senate agenda.
- Attendance Policy before senate with revisions
- Armand Gilinsky offered to run as Chair of EPC. He was unanimously elected as the next Chair of EPC.
- Program Reviews are moving forward.

2. Graduate Studies Subcommittee (SC)

- Electing a new chair
- Graduate showcase is May 10th

3. Subcommittee (TS)

- Concern over fall scheduling. There have been courses mounted that were not sanctioned by faculty. Academic Affairs directed how the schedule would go forth. Faculty concerned that learning outcomes will not be met and that plans developed by faculty for these courses were not pursued. SC recommended that this issue be brought to the Academic Coordinating meeting as an information item. TS will attend as proxy for EN. EPC agreed that TS serve as proxy for EN.

4. Associated Students (AB)

Shared two resolutions from Associated Students

- Want more Business specific courses offered in GE patterns and suggest that School of Business and Economics consider offering more generalized business specific courses in GE
- Concern over Lack of Capstone Courses during the Regular Session. The resolution demands that there be seats for all required capstone classes made available to students applying for graduation.

Business

Business Item #1

Update on Chancellor's GC Advisory Committee, guest Catherine Nelson

Update on the development of SB 1440, *Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act*. A proposal to amend the CSU policy and Title 5 regulations to waive the US History, the American's Institutions requirement, for high unit professional degrees and in cases of individual hardship may go before the Chancellor's GE Advisory Committee in May. SB 1440 does not address these units in the transfer model. There doesn't seem to be any curricular justification, just a way out of the complexities and unintended consequences of SB 1440.

Discussion:

- Need for informed citizens
- What power do faculty/students/campuses have to influence this decision?
- Will waiver be mandated or will each campus be able to have specific requirement?
- Role of chancellor
- Spill over to other department and courses- if students don't have the foundations, impact on other classes
- The timing of proposal at the end of the semester will make it difficult for faculty to respond.

Decision: Develop a general position statement that can be modified to include specific details as the proposal develops further. LM, AK and AB will work over email to draft a position statement and bring to next EPC meeting.

Business Item #2

Economics Revisions, guests Robert Eyler and Florence Bouvet

Proposal is to revise current International Economics Program due to (1) retirement of faculty and (2) new faculty expertise. It is now possible to expand offerings in ECON 403 seminars to include international trade and international finance. This does not change the overall unit or course load in the program. It requires students to take 2 courses of the expanded ECON 403 set of seminar classes and one additional upper division course approved by advisor rather than the current program that includes 1 ECON 403 class and two additional upper division courses.

Discussion

- Rationale needs to be based on curricular issues, not on available faculty.
 - The seminars will address current issues and faculty were hired to provide expertise in these areas.
- Are there enough students for two additional seminars?
 - Seminars will be scheduled to be available to students. Students have expressed interest in these topics.

Motion: waive first reading (TS). Second (SC and LW). Passed, unanimously.

Motion: to approve (EN). Approved unanimously.

Business Item #3

Chemistry Revisions, guest Jenn Lillig and Mark Perri

Presenting proposal for three related curricular changes for three degree paths, Biochemistry, BA Chemistry and BS Chemistry. Rationale includes the need to modernize the curriculum and maintain the lab intensive focus of the majors.

BS Chemistry revision

- Restructured undergraduate research to full year including how to work in a lab and planning research for second semester project
- Incorporation of two Chemistry electives into the BS Chemistry track
- Revised capstone including the physical chemistry lab that will make real world connections with sub-disciplines
- Development of a stand-alone instrumental lecture course, which has a pedagogical rationale and is required by the American Chemical Society to maintain the BS Chemistry.

BS Biochemistry revision

- Restructured undergraduate research to full year including how to work in a lab and planning research for second semester project
- Revised capstone including the physical chemistry lab that will make real world connections with sub-disciplines
- Added a choice of upper division Chemistry or Biology Elective
- Development of a stand-alone instrumental lecture course, which has a pedagogical rationale and is required by the American Chemical Society to maintain the BS Chemistry.

BA Chemistry Revision

- Increase the number of elective course units
- Revised capstone including the physical chemistry lab that will make real world connections with sub-disciplines
- Development of a stand-alone instrumental lecture course, which has a pedagogical rationale and is required by the American Chemical Society to maintain the BS Chemistry.

Discussion

- Chemistry electives- how far in advance will students know what is offered?
 - Topics will rotate and are offered at this point experimentally but will eventually be scheduled for the upcoming year
- Accreditation questions
 - Number of labs, advanced coursework and instrument course are all in line with accreditation
- Timing to get revisions through senate
 - If Senate meets on May 5th, it should get through

Motion: to waive first reading (TS) Second (AG). Passed, unanimously.

Motion: to approve (EN). Approved unanimously.

Business Item #4

Update on University 102, guest John Kornfeld

- Budget changes. Funding being put into academic affairs for faculty and peer mentors. Julie will move into academic affairs. All university courses back in Academic Affairs where they belong.
- John Kornfeld's position moves to full time to coordinate these changes and his original job description
- Discussion of different freshman transition pathways
 - Question about faculty approval
 - Is 102 cutting into major units
 - STEM proposal
 - A&H reform
 - Now that Academic Affairs has control of resources they can have more flexibility. Would like every freshman to have a transition program but to be content driven with transition elements.

Business Item #5

Engineering revisions, guest Jagan Agrawal

Proposal includes course work changes and changes to the grading policy.

Coursework changes include:

- A new 1unit course, ES 112 added in the second semester to apply math skills in the first semester of digital design and avoid the need to review these skills in later courses. It will also keep students engaged with the engineering faculty to improve retention and advising.
- 1 unit lab dropped from ES 330. The work in this lab can easily be completed through class simulations and other assignments.
- Two three unit courses ES 440 and ES 441 replaced by one four unit course 442 to address the overlap between the two classes.
- The total number of units needed for this program will be reduced by 3 units.

Changes to the grading policy

Introduce a grading requirement to ensure

- students have knowledge and skills to succeed in higher level classes and
- that students have competencies to be able to function as good engineers.

Motion to waive first reading (AG) Second (TS). Passed, unanimously.

Motion: to approve (EN). Approved unanimously.

Business Item #6

Revision to Executive MBA, guest, Terry Lease

Proposal to reassign course units so all courses have whole unit numbers and each course has 1-3 variable units.

- Flexibility for International Experience as stand alone component for some cohorts and attached to a class for other cohorts depending on timing and content of the experience
- Modules are placed into semester system so the fractional units initially approved do not work in this system and sometimes impacts students' ability to access financial aid
- After implementing the program with the first cohort, not all classes accurately reflected the workload
- Would like flexibility to change course units from 1-3 depending on cohort and specifics of each cohort program. Each cohort's program would be reviewed and approved by program faculty at the start of the program.
- Change total units from 30-32
- There is a set fee for entire program so no direct impact on fees or program costs.

Discussion

Proposal was approved by the Graduate Studies committee

Discussion about learning outcomes and alignment with flexible units

Each course has a master syllabus attached to it

Motion to waive first reading (TS) Second (LW). Passed, unanimously.

Motion: to approve (EN). Approved unanimously

Business Item #7

Wine business management certificate series, guest, Ray Johnson

Online non-academic degree in Wine Business Management Certificate Series

- Three levels
 - Introductory level – 16 hours
 - Fundamentals of wine
 - Deepen knowledge of wine commerce
 - Certificate if exam passed
 - Intermediate Level
 - Examine business issues
 - Analyze finance
 - Legal and regulatory issues
 - Certificate if exam passed
 - Advanced
 - Production and Quality

- Wine Marketing
- Series Certificate if exam passed
- May meet requirements for Wine MBA program

Discussion

- Can students take the exam and not the classes
- More like professional development and community education
- Nothing like this series in the industry

Motion first reading completed (TS) Second. Passed, unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.