

Educational Policies Committee
Minutes: March 8, 2012
Recorded by: Christina Baker

Members Present: Armand Gilinsky, chair; Jeffrey Reeder; Christina Baker; Melinda Milligan; Carmen Works; Mary Dingle; Elaine Newman; Amy Kittelstrom; Joe Marquez.
Liaison Present: Elaine Sundberg

Agenda approved.

Minutes from previous meeting were not included in packet. Minutes will be added to packet for March 22 meeting.

AG announces items not on agenda:

1. A proxy chair for March 22 meeting is needed.
 - EN volunteers to chair meeting
2. Revisions to Geography and Kinesiology programs are forthcoming
3. EPC chair position will be up for vote in April.

Reports

Chair Report (AG)

Reminder that Provost Rogerson will attend EPC meeting on 4/12

There is a revision to the sabbatical difference in pay policy. Would go directly to RTP committee and bypass the school review.

Changes to “Excellence in Teaching” Award. Will be filed for 1 year, instead of 2 years.

Discussion of the CSU on-line policy began:

Intellectual property should be safe for now. However, this is an issue that will continue to be addressed. Who does the information/content belong to? University? CSU?

EN asks if current and past course info from Moodle would be safe if the contract changes. More info is requested.

APC is supposed to be working on a policy for Moodle.

EN asks about “guaranteed” spots in freshmen interest classes. How does this work? How will this affect departments?

ES states that this refers to large lecture courses.

ES suggests that John Kornfeld should come to EPC meeting to update committee on freshmen programs.

CW states that the goal of the university is that all first year students would go through a learning cohort.

AG was not able to attend APC meeting.

JR states that graduate studies did not meet last week.

GE Subcommittee Report (CW)

CW states that J. Palmer attended meeting. He will convey message to mount A1 sections to Dean Stearns.

1 new Philosophy course was approved and 1 new Philosophy course was tentatively approved (both in area C3).

Discussion about University 238/Leadership course

ES responds that there was no funding for the course and it was not offered this semester. Alternative training was looked at to cover for this.

Discussion about a Dean-taught GE mega course - would be taught to save money as a response to budget cuts.

ES states that this was proposed by the Deans.

May be in area E or C, upper division GE.

Classes would have approximately 1,000 students in class.

Would save \$250,000-300,000 in Academic Affairs.

AG points out that this would impact other upper division GE courses.

MM points out that Dean Leeder regularly volunteers to teach a large lower div Sociology course & uses undergraduate TAs.

MM expresses concern about using undergrads in a large upper div course.

Another concern is the plan to use the GMC, because there are no writing surfaces.

EN questions what kind of assessment will be used and/or lost in a 1,000 student course. Are scantrons really appropriate for an upper division course?

New Business/Report from Elaine Sundberg

- Update on Early Start

Courses are currently posted to Chancelor's website. ESE 10 is the 1-unit Early Start English course. ESM 10 is 1-unit Early Start Math course.

Courses are both on-line through Extended Ed @ \$180 per unit (plus \$2 for other fees). Math course will utilize "Alex" which is an online program that helps students improve test performance.

English course is 1-week online. Students will read and respond in writing. Will prep students for 100AB "stretch" program.

These units do not count toward graduation.

There are some access issues with the "Alex" program (cannot be used by students with certain disabilities).

Students can take the course(s) from any CSU. SSU is one of the few schools offering these courses on-line.

CMS start page has been set up. Students will be notified if they need to take the one of the courses.

Old Business

- Revision to MS Nursing Family Practitioner program

3 reps from the nursing program attended. This was the second visit to discuss the revisions to the program.

Included additional documents that had been requested by the committee, which have more details of curriculum changes (Comparison of old and proposed curriculum with explanation). Address the questions from the previous visit: Which courses are new and which courses are revised.

They explain that the core courses needed to be grouped into two 4 unit courses. They are blending the research and theory courses; additionally several core themes are reflected throughout the new curriculum.

JR moves to approve program revision. EN seconds. Committee approves.

New Business (cont.)

- Revision to Theater Arts Program

Revisions consist of: degree/concentration name change, new courses, and program revision.

Current program consist of 3 concentrations (Acting, Dance, and Tech), plus a general theater degree. Revised program would add a “theater studies” concentration, which would take the place of the general theater degree. This would result in a theater program with four concentrations.

The lower division courses of the theater arts program would remain, but upper division core would be revised. More varied courses in tech and staging work would be included, which will provide a more focused tech concentration. New program would also incorporate courses that are in the catalog, but did not previously provide credit toward the degree.

EN asks why many of the courses have been moved from the core to electives.

Response: Students would be heavily advised to take certain courses, but this would allow for more flexibility for students and faculty.

ES requests explanation as to why THAR 375 (Contemporary Plays and Playwrights) is changed to THAR 275.

Response: The information in this course should be introduced to students at an earlier time.

ES requests that the GE courses are indicated as such.

THAR 455 is proposed as a new elective course. The idea is that this would provide students with the option of a “capstone” course, where students could create a plan for themselves. This would be offered once a year.

MD asks for reasoning as to why this capstone course is an elective.

Response: Faculty felt that making the course concrete would compromise other units/courses offered by faculty. With the revised program, there will be a “hanging unit” that faculty use to teach this course.

MM requests clarification of the frequency that the course will be taught.

Response: Minimum of once every four semesters. But this will depend on the need and resources.

Suggestion that this should considered a “synthesis” course, rather than a capstone course.

AG asks for clarification about why course is offered “experimentally.”

Response: Course is actually not being offered experimentally.

EN moves to wave first reading. JM seconds. Committee approves.

Second Reading:

Committee confirms that THAR 455 should not be considered a “capstone”, and this wording should be changed. Change the wording “capstone experience” in the Justification for THAR 455. Should also change “experimental” wording for THAR 455. Information about which courses are new, revised, and GE should be added.

Question is asked about whether resources are affected by the 1 unit increase in the program.

Response: No new resources. Only a reorganization of faculty.

Program revision is approved, with the requested changes. AG asks for changes by Monday.

EN will discuss GE Unit Policy during 3/22 meeting.

JR moves to adjourn. Meeting adjourns at 12:50.