

Educational Policies Committee

Minutes
12/17/2009

Members Present: C. Works, T. Stearns, M. Milligan, S. Cabaniss, K. Grady, A. Gilinsky, S. Cunningham, M. Clark, J. Tice

Liaisons Present: none

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. The Agenda was approved with Business Items Liberal Arts program at Solano JC deleted and GE Reform in Arts and Humanities added.
3. 11/12/09 minutes were approved.
December 2009 minutes approved with possible changes to paragraph 10 on page 5. E. Sundberg will be asked to clarify it.

REPORTS:

Chair of EPC: CW reported that E. Ochoa has asked the GE Subcommittee to draft a proposal for a senior experience capstone course and to support holding some assessment workshops for the learning objectives that were developed last year. A proposal from Engineering Sciences received a “no” from E. Sundberg. The Department wants to bring it forward to EPC regardless. CW will ask ES to write a something formally. There are big changes being proposed in General Education which will be on EPC’s agenda today. The Chair’s report was followed by discussion of the necessity to bring all program changes through faculty governance. Also, JT will be the EPC liaison to JCAP. There was general agreement that EPC needs to respond to restructuring by attending to any curricular issues. The development of a Double Major Policy has been referred to University Standards which will report to EPC.

Graduate Studies Subcommittee: TS reported on some issues which were being discussed where MA programs wanted to move to a different departments or schools. These include the Linguistics Program and Organizational Development.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. New minor in Electrical Engineering, second reading: J. Agrawal presented examples of such minors at other CSU campuses and explained how the unit load would work for a non-science major at SSU. LM suggested making the prerequisites more obvious.

Motion to approve (LM). Second (AG). Approved unanimously.

2. Changes in MSCES, first reading: J. Agrawal explained that one technical course would be replaced with a business course. In additional students must take a 1-unit internship and a 1-unit graduate seminar. The net increase in units is two. These changes will allow the program to be recognized as a Professional Science Masters (PSM) Program. There was a request for a Master Syllabus showing how learning outcomes match those of the PSM Program.

3. GE Reform Proposal from Arts and Humanities: T. Wandling requested a waiver to the university policy "General Education Courses, Three-Unit Standard". Additionally, Area C4 would be omitted and a language requirement would be instituted. All of Area A would be four units although not all of Area C would be. There were questions about how one can have a waiver from a University policy and whether dropping a GE Area complied with Executive Order 1033. There was a question of articulation with junior college courses and transfer students. There is a need for detailed learning objectives and outcomes, especially if students are taking two fewer courses. There was a suggestion that the second reading be divided into four parts in order to proceed with appropriate processes.

Motion to extend the discussion two minutes (LM). Second (TS) Passed.

4. Forms from GE subcommittee, second reading: R. Laney

Motion by TS (second by AG) to separate the two forms, the GE Course Modification Form and the Guide for GE Courses Proposal.

Passed unanimously.

GE Course Modification Form Discussion:

Motion by TS (second by SC) to amend part b under "Attachments" of the GE Course Modification Form by changing "Comments on proposed changes from appropriate school-level curriculum committees" to "Signature sheet and/or comments on proposed changes from school-level curriculum committee."

Amendment to the amendment by TS (second by MC): Change wording to "Signature sheet, which may also include comments on proposed changes, from school-level curriculum committee." (Vote: 7 for, 2 opposed, 1 abstention)

TS stated that the purpose of the motion was to align the form with the Curriculum guide. There was extensive discussion, particularly about the role of School Curriculum Committees in GE proposals made by a department in a different school. It was pointed out that EPC was the ultimate arbitrator of any disputes.

Vote on amendment: 5 for, 4 opposed, 1 abstention

Meeting adjourned

Minutes submitted by S. Cabaniss.