

Minutes
Educational Policies Committee
April 29, 2010
Sue Jameson Room

Present: Carmen Works (Chair), Thaine Stearns, Melinda Milligan, Sharon Cabaniss, Karen Grady, Lynne Morrow, Armand Gilinsky, Sheila Cunningham, Mateo Clark, Lillian Lee, Alex Boyar (proxy for Jenny Tice)

Liaisons Present: Elaine Sundberg for Academic Programs

Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m.

Meeting agenda approved with no changes.

Minutes of April 15th approved noting sentence fragment at the bottom of Page 1.

Consent Items: None

Business Item # 1 – Election for EPC Chair for AY 2010-2011

Elaine McDonald-Newman was the only candidate forwarded to the EPC Chair. A secret ballot election was held and Elaine McDonald-Newman was elected EPC Chair for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Reports:

Chair of EPC

C. Works reported that the Academic Senate Analyst received information that EPC had, at one time, an Extended Education Subcommittee and an inquiry as to its status. We don't know.

Academic Programs – E. Sundberg

- Reported that she had been out of the loop when an announcement for a GE conference in Oakland made the rounds. The conference convenes next week and the Chancellor's Office is paying for three people from each campus to attend. She and Tim Wandling are attending. If anyone from EPC or their constituencies would like to attend, please contact her immediately. The team will report back to EPC.

- WASC is completely revising their handbook. So this is a heads-up for SSU whose accreditation review comes due in 10 years.
- She is taking seven SSU students to an undergraduate research competition in San Jose. Anthropology student Marcia Brown's paper has been selected for a COPLAC journal.
- In June she and Melinda Barnard will travel to the Chancellor's Office to talk about academic program planning. They will also review instructions on the discontinuation process for both undergraduate and graduate academic programs. Self-support programs are also on the agenda.
- C. Works asked about the Undergraduate Coordinator position presented by Provost Ochoa. Answer: Ochoa is moving forward quickly. The GE subcommittee looked at the position description last week. Should EPC members have suggestions or concerns, quickly send them to the EPC Chair who will forward it to E. Sundberg. The Provost wants to finalize it on Monday.

Business Item # 2 – Revision to BA in English

This is a first reading. Thaine Stearns presenting.

ENGL has been trying to get their Single Subject Credential Concentration Program accredited for years. After a long and arduous process and at the end of last summer the State finally approved the program. This is a program revision increasing the units required from 48 to 52.

A. Gilinsky: Any new courses?

Answer: All the core courses already exist. The Arts & Humanities GE reform will move some of the GE around. In the fall ENGL will come back to EPC with tweaks to the requirements in light of the reform.

S. Cabaniss: Who approves increases in units for the degree?

Answer: That is a campus decision. And it is reported to the Chancellor's Office.

K. Grady moved to waive the first reading. Seconded. Motion passed.

T. Stearns requested an amendment to the proposed changes with regard to the collateral requirements, specifically to remove "COMS 202 or Media 4, or AMCS 392 or internship". The required media component will be met in ENGL 496, the capstone course.

Motion to remove COMS 202 or Media 4 or AMCS 392, or internship from the proposal. Seconded. 8 – ayes, none opposed, 2 - abstentions. Motion passed.

S. Cabaniss: Will the displaced courses change the unit value of ENGL 496 or diminish learning outcomes? Will it still meet the State's media component requirement?

Answer: There is no change in the unit value of ENGL 496 nor is diminished learning outcomes expected. And the State's media requirement will be met. However, refinements to individual courses will be coming through EPC in the fall. He expressed a desire that EPC make a decision on the proposal today.

K. Grady moved to extend the discussion five minutes. Seconded. Motion passed.

K. Grady moved to approve the proposal as amended. Seconded. Motion passed.

Business Item # 3 – WGS Minor in Queer Studies

This is a first reading. Don Romesburg presenting.

The School Curriculum Committee has approved the proposal.

The new minor is responding to student interest in a rapidly growing field of study and research that is Queer Studies. Students have said the minor will not only meet their need for focused study, but provide professional enhancement and broaden their degrees in the marketplace.

The minor will join programs already established at three other CSU campuses including San Francisco State and Humboldt State.

The minor will be housed in Women's and Gender Studies. The departments of SOC and PSYCH have affirmed their commitment to the minor. The minor will not impact resource allocation and is not expected to have a profound impact in advising (through WGS).

With SSU's renewed commitment to diversity here is a real opportunity to support that initiative without additional cost.

T. Stearns: Would it be helpful to have more options for elective courses, ENGL for example?

Answer: Yes, they are open to adding breadth to the list of electives.

C. Works: Does the minor have an upper division unit requirement?

E. Sundberg: Yes, 6 units minimum. It is recommended the minor include and clearly articulate that in the catalog copy for the minor. Also that a minor requires a minimum of 12 units.

A. Gilinsky moved to waive the first reading. Seconded. Motion passed.

E. Sundberg called this to EPC's attention: A student cannot have a SOC major and a SOC minor. Likewise, a WGS major cannot also have a WGS minor. This is not the case for the Queer Studies minor because Queer Studies is distinct from WGS. But, EPC should articulate that in the curriculum guide.

T. Stearns: For a WGS major who wants a minor in Queer Studies. What does their unit profile in the major look like?

Answer: 18 units would count for the major. All units in the minor will also count toward the major.

K. Grady moved to extend the discussion two minutes. Seconded. Motion passed.

T. Stearns moved to approve the proposal for a Minor in Queer Studies. Seconded. Motion passed.

The proposal will be forwarded to the Academic Senate's Executive Committee for placement on the Senate agenda as a Consent Item.

Business Item # 4 – Revisions to Teaching Credentials

This is a second reading for revisions to the Leadership and to the Special Education credentials. Emiliano Ayala and Elaine _____ presenting.

The revisions must first be approved by the university before it can be presented to the State.

T. Stearns moved to approve revisions to all five parts of proposed changes. Seconded. Motion passed with none opposed and one abstention.

The Educational Leadership and Special Education proposes a new credential for Preliminary Education Specialist (Communication Development).

This addresses the shortage of speech pathologists for autism spectrum identification. The State wants to see schools responding to the need and offer a credential in Communication Development.

This credential will align with the Mild-to-Moderate and Moderate-to-Severe Special Education Credentials. Students will be able to progress smoothly from one credential to the next. Coursework will be similar to the special education curriculum with the addition of a new course.

So, a student getting a Mild-to-Mod Special Ed credential can, by taking the new course and a practicum, also receive a credential in Communication Development. Placement will be individually articulated so that one placement can fulfill practicum requirements for both credentials.

T. Steans moved to waive the first reading. Seconded. Motion passed. Item moved to a Second Reading.

Further discussion ensued.

T. Stearns moved to approve the proposal for the Communication Development credential. Seconded. Motion passed.

Having reached the conclusion of the time certain allocated for this business item the proposal for a new Credential for Autism Authorization was moved to the next meeting's agenda.

Business Item #5 – Changes in the BS in Geology

This is a first reading. Matt James and Matty Mookerjee presenting.

M. Mookerjee: The major has remained the same for many years. With the changes in GEOL faculty, new trends in the field, and changes in the job market the major needs to reflect the current environment of the discipline. The proposed revisions will modernize and re-align courses to the major's mission. And courses will be more relevant to topics students want to study.

Both presenters and EPC reviewed and discussed the list of nine rationales included in the proposal along with the rationale for a change in course numbering.

M. Clark noted that there is a GEOL GIS course listed as a required course. Why not take his GIS course? Why create a new one?

Answer: GEOL wants all of their students to be familiar with the principles of GIS as they relate to GEOL. Mateo's GIS course is not as specific to Geology. The GEOL course will expose students to GIS in a major specific way. Students who want to study GIS in greater depth will be encouraged to Mateo's class.

M. Clark welcomes interest from GEOL majors, but was concerned that the GIS lab has limited seating. He continues to actively advocate for more resources, but there has been little change so far.

S. Cabaniss: Two things. Has GEOL looked at other BS's in the system that don't have non-physics-based calculus, and, second, surveyed other CSU's about this?
Answer: It's fifty-fifty between trig-based physics vs calc-based physics. Some GEOL programs accept them, some don't.

A. Gilinsky would like to see the students' needs for the job market articulated.

M. Mookerjee said the job market has changed over the years. The GEOL faculty wasn't reflecting those changes. The proposal is an attempt to realign the major to the current market and national averages.

A. Gilinsky would like to see in the proposal a statement of how the major will enhance students' marketability and career advancement.

T. Stearns wanted to know the logic behind changing the 400 courses to 300 courses?

EPC posed three action items for the second reading:

- 1) Include a statement of how the new major will enhance students' marketability
- 2) Present the logic behind changing the 400-level courses in the curriculum to 300-level?
- 3) Include an assessment plan in the proposal.

This proposal will return for a second reading at the next EPC meeting.

Business Item #6 - WEPT Policy Revision

This is a second reading. Brantley Bryant presenting.

The revised policy more clearly defines what the requirements are and the differentiation between the GWAR and the WEPT.

T. Stearns: Do we want to state in the policy that students can petition to waive the WEPT requirement?

E. Sundberg recommended it not be specifically stated that a petition process is available. The waiver is for the test itself, and not for the requirement.

T. Stearns moved to strike the second-to-the-last sentence from the new policy. Seconded. Motion passed.

The Committee was reminded that policies cannot be sent forward as consent items. This go to the Academic Senate as a business item.

K. Grady moved to approve the revised WEPT policy. Seconded. Motion passed.

Reports cont'd:

T. Stearns to E. Sundberg: In the last GE sub-committee meeting there was discussion of the position description for the Director for Undergraduate Studies presented by Provost Ochoa.

She confirmed she did get an email from Rheyna Laney, Chair of the GE Sub-committee, with their questions and issues regarding the position. She forwarded the email to Provost Ochoa and she will follow up with Rheyna.

She pointed out the job duties and responsibilities are taken directly from EPC's Curriculum Guide. She also forwarded her suggestions for revision to include language that reflects the consultative, cooperative, liaising nature of the Director's position.

S. Cabaniss reported the School of Science and Technology's curriculum committee had questions too, mostly about resources in light of the tight budget. Where can we send that feedback?

E. Sundberg will accept them and forward them to the Provost. In terms of resources, the position is a half-time position and will get release time. Release time will be re-distributed from other positions, not in addition to release-time currently used.

Curriculum Guide

C. Works reported sending questions to the Chair of the GE Sub-committee and hasn't heard back yet. We do have to revise the guide as some of it is obsolete and obscure.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Lee