

EPC Minutes
3/11/10

Members Present: Carmen Works (Chair), Sharon Cabaniss, Jenny Tice, Mateo Clark, Armand Gilinksy, Thaine Stearns, Lilian Lee, Lynne Morrow

Liaisons Present:

Elaine Sundberg

Agenda

Some questions about GBLB 300 were raised. TS moved to have the approval of GBLB 300 change from being a consent item to being a business item at the next meeting.

MC: Seconded

Approval to change from consent item to business item unanimous.

Approval of GBL 300 taken off agenda as consent item.

The time certain for Art Warmoth was changed from 11:30 to 11:20

Agenda approved as amended.

Minutes

Minutes from 2/25/10 were amended to reflect that the GE coordinator position is not *awaiting funding*, but is contingent on getting a resources statement from the Provost's Office.

Minutes approved as amended.

Reports

Carmen Works: The first reading of the proposal by A & H to change GE pattern will be at today's Senate meeting.

Electrical Engineering minor will be a consent item.

Carmen met with Saeid Rahimi who has created an organizational chart for addressing closing the graduation gap. He would like a representative from EPC to be a member of the implementation group.

GE is starting their workshops on assessing the learning objectives in Areas A2 and A3. Executive Committee will vote on whether to conduct a national search for the positions of Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. Carmen wanted to know if we had recommendation. After discussion it was decided that EPC is in favor of a national search.

Business

Art Warmoth, liaison from APC, explained JCAP's constellation of the Curriculum Planning and Innovation (CPI) working group and who the members are. Their work is part of addressing larger academic issues related to improving graduate rates. Art asked that a member of EPC act as liaison to APC's CPI group and also become part of JCAP. Ideally these would be the same person. The goal is to have a broad constituency of stakeholders involved in improving graduation rates. Elaine Sundberg pointed out that several plans already exist for improving graduation rates and these are being implemented.

Jeff Davis and Daniel Smith presented the new course proposal for Univ 103M and N as a first reading. Jeff explained that the services of the McNair Scholars program fall into three categories and these two courses support the services to these students in two categories: how to conduct research and how to successfully navigate the application process for graduate school.

TS asked why there are units associated with these courses given the current emphasis on holding students to a total of 120 units.

S Cabanis: How will it work to have a permanent course that is funded by a terminal grant? In a similar program in the sciences the units are offered through independent studies courses.

AG: Do the courses need to be units bearing? If not, do they need to be approved?

S Cunningham: Since one course is research intensive, how can the library support students, unit bearing or not?

CS: Why do these courses have units instead of being co-curricular workshops?

These questions will be addressed at the second reading.

Lynn Cominsky presented changes in the Physics major and Astronomy minor. We considered the changes to the minor first. LC responded to questions about changes.

TS moved to waive the first reading.

S Cunningham: Seconded

Approved unanimously.

TS moved to approve the changes in the Astronomy minor

S Cunningham: Seconded

Approved unanimously.

LC explained that the change to the Physics major program would allow Physics 100 to be an elective for physics majors as a replacement for an upper division elective. She explained the pedagogical reasons for this change and responded to questions about how students would be advised in a timely manner.

Further discussion ensued about how Physics 100 fits into a major's plan. Non-physics majors will not be excluded from taking Physics 100 because of this change.

Based on how complete and thorough the proposal is, TS moved to waive the first reading.

AG: Seconded

Approved unanimously.

LL: Moved to approve the proposed changes to the Physics major and to the Astronomy minor.

MC: Seconded

Approved unanimously.

Discussion of previous business items

TS reminded that committee that contrary to AW's statement, JCAP does have official standing. He described how thinly stretched EPC members are already with the liaison positions they must currently fill and that APC curricular recommendations could be made by the APC liaison to EPC without the creation of a new liaison position to JCAP. ES agreed with TS and explained that efforts needed in curriculum planning and innovation to address the graduation gap are already underway through extant committees.

S Cabanis suggested that John Wingard from Structures and Functions be invited to EPC to discuss why the Senate is encouraging these additional liaison positions.

Reports continued

Elaine Sundberg has asked the Provost to respond to the resource question regarding the position of director of undergraduate studies.

We received the letter from WASC reaffirming accreditation of SSU for 10 years. A follow-up report will be submitted in two years on 1) retention and graduation efforts, 2) how we are doing on the accountability loop for program reviews, and 3) how GE assessment is going.

Business continued

Brantley Bryant represented a draft of revisions of WEPT policy to align it with current practice. EPC members made several suggestions for additional revisions. BB will work on suggested revisions to the draft.

Meeting adjourned@ 12:52