

Educational Policies Committee

Minutes
11/ 29 / 07

Members Present: T. Stearns, S. Bittner, S. Cabaniss, C. Elster, L. Morrow, K. Ely, E. Bower, L. Lee, C. Works, M. Clark

Liaisons Present: C. Blackshie-Belay, T. Saboda

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. The Agenda was changed to drop Business item #4, Singapore. The time for Business item #3, Geography/Global Studies, was changed to immediately follow Business item #2, Anthropology and Linguistics. The Agenda was approved as changed.
3. The minutes were approved with one minor change to correct the spelling of Katharyn Crabbe's name.

REPORTS:

4. Chair of EPC: T. Stearns reported the FYE proposal will have a first reading at the next EPC meeting. It is recommended by the GE Subcommittee with substantive changes such as using GE categories A1 and A3 and dropping A2. John Kornfeld is trying to get a budget to present. There was some discussion. T. Stearns also reported that he was initiating discussions with APC Chair Art Warmoth and the GE Subcommittee about dealing with General Education courses and undergraduate courses which do not fall under any department. Examples are the University 102 and 150 courses. APC would like a memo from EPC outlining some recommendations.

5. Vice Provost, Academic Program: C. Blackshire-Belay reported that the Singapore proposal was being reevaluated especially concerning personnel and further consultation with some departments. She also reported that University 102, EMT, was under discussion and review because of union issues which must be settled by Fall, 2008. There is a proposal to move it to Academic Affairs in some form. There were some questions and it was explained that Les Adler is continuing to work on the Singapore project although he has retired as Dean of Extended Education. She also clarified that Univ 102 is in the Program Review schedule although it is not on the EPC's list. It is due for a five-year review. The issue for the Univ 102 courses is whether or not the "instructor of record" is in Unit 3 as required by the MOU and whether or not there is academic supervision of the courses.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Engineering Science, Revision of an Existing Program, Addition of Courses: Jagan Agrawal explained that they are adding two 1-unit courses. One is a Natural Science lab, Physics 116, which is already required for General Education, so the proposal is to make that requirement explicit. The second is

adding a 1-unit seminar course to give students a broader perspective, Engineering Science 497. Students will attend a seminar on various aspects of engineering in the broader community and participate in group discussions. Discussion and questions followed. Agrawal explained that speakers for the seminar came from off campus and were given a stipend of \$200 plus travel expenses. This is funded by private donations. There was some general discussion about how the program fits into a liberal arts and sciences degree. L. Morrow moved to waive the first reading. C. Works seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. K. Ely moved to approve the proposals. C. Works seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

2. Anthropology and Linguistics: Revision to Existing Programs: J. Wingard explained they were changing the major requirement concerning the four subfields which had previously only been represented in upper division courses. Now students would study them in four lower division courses and follow up with four upper division courses, one in each field. One of the latter must be a methods course and one not a methods course. These proposals come out of last year's Program Review. There was some discussion.

K. Ely moved to waive the first reading. S. Bittner seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

There was a question about the impact on electives, and Wingard explained that most students take extra classes.

K. Ely moved to approve the proposal. C. Elster seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

3. Geography/Global Studies: Revision to Existing Programs: J. Wingard and M. Clark presented the reports for R. Laney who could not attend. The proposal was presented in three parts. The first proposal is for the addition of a new concentration, Globalization and Cultural Identity. This proposal is part of a shuffling of the other concentrations, partly to take advantage of the expertise of new faculty. All courses in the new concentration are already offered. There was some discussion of EPC procedures regarding course additions to a major. The first reading was concluded.

The second proposal concerns revisions to three concentrations: Environment and Society (formerly Nature/Society), Biophysical Environment, and Geospatial Techniques (formerly Geographic Information Technologies). This is basically a shuffling of courses in the concentrations to take advantage of an increase in faculty with new expertise and retirement of other faculty and to update curriculum to keep current with national trends in small Geography departments. These changes include offering a new course, Resource Wars (Geog 345). There were questions and discussion. The first reading was concluded.

The third proposal is from the Global Studies Steering Committee and concerns revision to the Global Studies Major Concentration in Global Environmental

Policy. The proposal is in response to substantial changes in ENSP and Geography which provide most of the courses for this Concentration. In addition the Steering Committee decided to change the Concentration so that all classes are at the upper division level, which is a policy of the major. There was some discussion and questions. The first reading was concluded.

D. Friedel was available to answer questions on the first proposal, so EPC went back to the first reading. She clarified that Geog 345 was not a required course for the Concentration.

K. Ely moved to waive the first reading. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

K. Ely moved to approve the proposal. L. Lee seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

D. Friedel clarified about the second proposal that all changes and the new course proposal had been approved by the School Curriculum Committee.

5. Resolution re: Administration of College Learning Assessment: K. Ely said that the motivation for the resolution was that if the CSU mandated using CLA, SSU has to do. The resolution states that if SSU is mandated to do it, it should be done effectively. There was some discussion of resources.

L. Morrow made a motion to amend the resolution by adding a new Resolved clause after the second one as follows:

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of SSU supports continuing to administer the CLA only as long as it is adequately funded by the Chancellor's office.

Seconded by L. Lee.

There was discussion. It was noted that the intention of the amendment was that all funding should come from the Chancellor's Office, not from SSU.

S. Cabaniss moved to postpone the discussion and vote to the next EPC meeting with a time certain. E. Bower seconded the motion. There was some discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Academic Calendar Guidelines: C. Works said to delete the "rational" paragraph from the proposal. There was no time for a first reading, but it was recommended that EPC members poll their constituents about the proposal.

REPORTS (continued):

6. Liaison to Academic Planning Committee: K. Ely presented three items that APC requested she bring to EPC. 1. APC recommends that APC, EPC and the GE Subcommittee prepared specific questions regarding GE and GE reform to ask the WASC review team when they visit SSU. There is a GE reform specialist

on the team. 2. APC suggested that all GE faculty meet to talk about GE, specifically best practices regarding teaching FYE. 3. APC would like a clarification of SFR and its calculation. K. Ely is willing to send out the formula to EPC members.

7. Graduate Studies Subcommittee: C. Elster reported that the Subcommittee is planning a retreat to discuss issues related to graduate studies. Issues included questions such as where does graduate studies stand in the campus community, what does graduate studies mean and how is it viewed on other campuses.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by S. Cabaniss.