

Educational Policies Committee
Minutes for May 24, 2007

Members present: Thaine Stearns (acting chair), Mary Halavais, Lillian Lee, Sharon Cabaniss, Rick Robison, Carmen Works, Lynne Morrow, Brett Christie, Carol Blackshire-Belay, Steve Bittner (recorder).

Thaine Stearns called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Agenda approved as amended.

Minutes from May 10, 2007 approved as amended.

Reports:

1. MH (outgoing chair) congratulated the committee for a productive year. She will write a letter to EPC's subcommittees requesting that they draft final reports. MH also notified the committee about SC's resolution regarding the allocation of university funds for assessment tools such as surveys and focus groups now in front of the Academic Senate. MH asked the committee whether it was necessary to remind the EMT program of the conditions under which it operates. She indicated that EMT has been awarding academic credit for courses taught without academic faculty. CB-B said that many EMT courses are taught by SSPs who have MAs. TS said that it is necessary to consider EMT and FYE together. The committee decided to invite Kathryn Crabbe to visit EPC in fall 2007. In the meantime, the committee asked MH to write a letter to Crabbe and EMT indicating that the present situation is untenable.
2. SC asked committee members to notify Art Warmouth about issues that might concern APC.
3. TS asked committee members to consider what liaison assignments they would be willing to undertake in 2007-8.

Business:

1. Joni Boucher and Les Adler told the committee about Extended Ed's new program in court reporting. Boucher said there is tremendous need for Spanish language interpreters in state and local courts in California. She envisioned the program as a way to prepare interpreters for the state certification exam. She said that a recent informational meeting attracted 94 prospective students. Entrance examinations will reduce the entering class to 30. She said that credit earned through the program can be applied to a Spanish degree and a liberal studies (Hutchins) degree. SC asked about the role of EPC in approving Extended Ed's programs. Les Adler said that degree granting programs must comply with all faculty review procedures. Non-degree programs that result in academic credit (like court reporting) are subject only to departmental oversight. Non-credit programs require no oversight.
2. Jeffrey Reader told the committee about the Spanish program review; Suzanne Toczyski and Christine Renaudin told the committee about the French program review. They said that CMS understates the number of Spanish and French majors because it is unable to account for double majors. They also said that external reviewers found that SSU's language lab is antiquated. Neither program received any money or reassignment time to conduct program review. SB asked CB-B whether it was possible to compensate the French and Spanish programs for their program reviews. CB-B promised to raise the issue with Dean Babula.

MH moved to waive the first reading of the French program review.

SB seconded.

Approved unanimously.

TS asked whether there was reason to be optimistic about future resources for the language lab.

The French program review was approved unanimously.

SB moved to waive the first reading of the Spanish program review.

CW seconded.

Approved unanimously.

SB asked why there is no university-wide language requirement. LM indicated that language instruction is essential for vocal students in the Music Department.

The Spanish program review was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.