

Minutes for Educational Policies Committee Meeting

Held 10-16-08 in the Sue Jamison Room

submitted by Kirsten Ely

Members present: Carmen Works (CW)-Chemistry & the Chair, Sharon Cabaniss (SB)-Math, John Wingard (JW)-Anthro, Brantley Bryant (BB)-Eng, Lynne Morrow (LM)-Music, Kirsten Ely (KE)-SBE, Sheila Cunningham (SC)-Lib, Katie Hatch (KH)-C&P, Mateo Clark (MC)-Geography, Tristan Kelly (TK)-AS, Elaine Sundberg (ES)-Academic Affairs, Robert Coleman (RC)-APC.

Absent: Charles Elster-Edu

Proxies: Paul Crowley for Charles Elster

Guests: Nathan Rank (NR)-GE, Derek Pierce-AS, Susan Moulton-Chair Elect

Meeting called to order at 11:00am

Agenda approved with added time certains

Minutes from 10-02-8 approved as amended

Amendments: Insert correct spelling of names—Robin Draper, Patricia McNeill, and Elaine Sundberg

Chair Report

1. Possible mid year cuts due to State budget issues: it has been suggested that one way to save money is to limit students to 16 units (from 20).

Discussion ensued—points made:

- What about graduating seniors?
- Some of the senators don't support this suggestion. Students frequently need to take more than 16 units to graduate in a timely manner.
- Students feel they are being punished particularly with students fees are also increasing.
- With 4 unit courses this means that only they can take only 4 courses.
- If we don't do something now, 1st Reg will be set before we know whether something is necessary
- It will cause FTES to go down. We are already over Target and already serving FTES that we are not getting paid for (about 280 FTES).
- Many students have to take remedial courses and so already are behind in progress toward graduation. There is also the diversity issue.

Issue will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

2. Do we want to see all of the proposals for new courses or should she just sign them as Chair. It was decided that she would send them out by email to give us the opportunity to see them and comment if we felt it was appropriate. It was suggested that they be treated as a Consent item on our agenda.

Business Items

1. CLA Resolution: A new draft incorporating the revisions from the previous meeting was presented by KE.

Discussion ensued.

- Process—In response to the fact that it was sent back to us by the Exec Comm because they felt it was not strong enough, EPC members indicated that once finalized, we should send it to the Exec Comm with the understanding that this is our final word on it.
- Changes were discussed and the following motions were put forward for changes.

Motion: Amend to add as a 1st Resolved clause: The results of the CLA are never used alone as a single measure of performance and whatever assessments are used to show the quality of our education should not lead to any punitive measures but rather to promote growth.

Moved by PC & seconded by MC.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Amend the current 3rd Resolved clause by splitting it into the following two clauses:

1. That the Academic Senate supports the administration of the 2nd year of the CLA pilot as long as it is adequately funded by the Chancellor's Office.
2. That the faculty are provided the raw CLA data in a timely manner for review.

Moved by PC & seconded by MC.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Motion: Amend to delete the clause with the phrase “maximize usefulness.”

Moved by KE & seconded by BB.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. President's Letter—deferred

3. GE Matters—GE Course Change Form: NR presented a course change form that had already gone through the GE Subcommittee. He indicated that a formal approval by EPC would help with the authority of the form.

Discussion ensued with respect to changes from 3 to 4 units and it was decided to separate the form issue which covers all changes from the 3 to 4 unit issue which is a broader university-wide issue as well as a GE issue.

Motion: Approve the form as presented and explained by NR.

Moved by SC & seconded by KE.
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Put a moratorium on any change from 3 to 4 units on any GE course until the Provost and Deans propose a systematic process.
Moved by LM & seconded by PC.

Discussion brought out concern that such a motion might limit the flexibility of the GE subcommittee to suggest ways to handle the issue.

Motion: Move to table the above motion until the next meeting.
Moved by JW & seconded by MC.
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Course Change Forms—addressed in the Chair’s Report

Adjourned at 12:50pm.