

EPC MINUTES Meeting of April 1, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. Present: Elaine Sundberg, Art Warmoth, Robert Coleman-Senghor, Perry Marker, Karen Brodsky, Vincent Richman, the chair, Elaine McDonald, and Mary Halavais.

REPORTS

Elaine Sundberg reported on WASC recommendations for program review process, from the visit of late March. The visiting committee recommended that

1. We sustain the assessment process;
2. EPC and the departments work together to conceptualize the process of evaluation in terms of learning outcomes and assessment;
3. Faculty assessment be coordinated and that it continue be funded on an ongoing basis;
4. The Center for Teaching Development continue.

WASC visitors commended us on GE work: alumni and student surveys, Area A and Ashville team, and the new approach to developing GE as part of the mission statement, and not just as a conduit to various majors.

They expressed concern over the implementation of these ideas and assessment of them, and suggested that we NOT wait for a totally new program to begin assessment. They liked the conceptual framework of first year work, breadth, and a capstone experience. The recommended release time for a faculty coordinator for GE and the also recommended resources for curricular innovation. They noted that there will be a faculty learning curve on this, and expressed hope that the CTD would assist.

They commended the provost's strategic planning initiative and recommended that that initiative be made institution wide.

They expressed concern over the low numbers of students of color, and over the lack of diversity in terms of faculty and staff ethnicity.

Perry asked whether the WASD report would be available to the community. Elaine said that it would be several months. We first need to receive the team report and the WASC commission letter. Perry said that this information was important to the current discussion of budget issues and suggest that it should be made available ASAP.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Withdrawing

Kathryn Crabbe has introduced a motion (attached to minutes.) It was suggested that the motion needed to be amended to make information about student withdrawing available to the teacher. A discussion of the reason for the current

problem ensued; the Peoplesoft system seems to be impacting policies and procedures. .

B. Program Reviews

Liberal Studies Ukiah

Sandra Feldman presented the IPR for this 25 year old program. She noted that SB 2042 mandates new content standards in teacher preparation; CTC will require reports for all 4 undergrad teacher prep programs in 2 years. She also noted that the “no child left behind” program, which requires “competent teachers,” makes a waiver program no longer viable.

Elementary Subject Matter Program Preparation – Hutchins, ENSP, CALS and AMCS (1st)

Debora Hammond, Rocky Rohwedder, and Manuel Hidalgo presented the Elementary Subject Matter Program Review, describing changes to the program required by new content standards. The 4 programs have been working together on the mandated changes. Changes may impact other departments. For example, Hutchins now requires Geology 107 and Chemistry 107 – new courses for teachers. A new course with drama, music and dance content is planned for fall 2005 in Theater Arts, to meet the new requirements.

Perry Marker pointed out that SB 2042 leads to a standardization of the curriculum, which is not always good. On the other hand, implementing the changes has encouraged conversation and collaboration.

Elaine Sundberg expressed concern that an outside entity was mandating changes, but that departments would have to find the resources to develop courses themselves. Manuel Hidalgo responded that in most cases, classes were adapted. Few completely new courses were required.

C. General Education Temporary Course Approval Proposal

Paul Draper provided a brief history. Last year, A & H sent 14 potential courses forward as emergency GE courses. The GE committee asked for a standard approach. This year, the requests were taken directly to the Provost, who sent them to the GE committee.

Upon some discussion of the issue, with time short and with the EPC finding themselves not in consensus on the issue, a decision was reached to convene in a special session the week of April 12.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.