Present: Abbas Aminmansour, Chair; Phillip Geil, Natasha Jankowski, Michael Krassa, Jacqueline McDowell, Steve Michael, Gay Miller, Lori Newcomb, David Olsen, David Strauser, Leslie Struble

Ex officio: Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Mary Lowry, Carol Malmgren, Keith Marshall, Lucy Rich

Guests: Ann Mester, Carol Livingstone

The first meeting of the 2009-2010 Committee on Educational Policy was called to order on Monday, August 24, at 1:10 p.m., in 232 English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the April 13, 2009 meeting were previously distributed and approved via email by the 2008-09 Committee.

II. Welcome/Introductions. Chair Aminmansour welcomed all to a new Senate year and thanked everyone for attending the day’s meeting. Those present introduced themselves.

III. Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements. Chair Aminmansour summarized the process for Committee review of proposals on educational policy matters over which the Senate has legislative jurisdiction (such as degree programs, changes in curricula, degree requirements, grading, etc.). Proposals may be generated at the departmental, college or campus level and are referred to EPC by the Provost's Office for review prior to Senate action. The Committee Chair assigns each proposal to one of the three EPC subcommittees for detailed consideration. Once a subcommittee has completed its review, the full Committee will vote on a motion to recommend action by the campus Senate.

Instructor and Course Evaluation System (ICES) Online. The Chair apprised the group of ongoing discussion regarding the merits and disadvantages of online instructor/course evaluations vs. in-class student evaluations. EPC has invited members of the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure, as well as Vice-Provosts Richard Wheeler and Barbara Wilson, Professors Joyce Tolliver, Nicholas Burbules, John Ory and John Prussing, to attend our August 31 meeting to discuss potential ramifications for promotion and tenure review and other related issues.

Admissions Review Process. In response to the Illinois Admissions Review Commission (ARC) Report and Recommendations, released on August 6, Chancellor Richard Herman, Interim Provost Robert Easter and SEC Chair Joyce Tolliver met and assembled a campus Admissions Task Force to consider admissions reform on the Urbana campus. Chair Aminmansour is a member of the Task Force, which is chaired by Professor Christine Hurt, Chair pro tem. of the Senate Committee on Admissions, and he will keep EPC apprised of future progress. Meantime, he encouraged Committee members to attend the special Senate meeting, which will be held on Monday, August 31, at 3:10 p.m.; the focus of which is a resolution from the Senate Executive Committee concerning future administration of the campus and University.

Grade Replacement Policy. (Re: EP.09.12; approved by the UIUC Senate, 12/8/08; Herman memo to Aminmansour, Finnerty, Tolliver, 7/8/09.) In his July 8 memorandum, Chancellor Herman indicated that he would like to postpone implementation of the policy until after the Senate provides its advice on implications for the Code on two provisions offered by the Senate Conference on Conduct Governance.

IV. Updates from the Provost's Office and Graduate College. On behalf of the Provost's Office, Assistant Provost Kristi Kuntz presented a number of Administrative Approvals for EPC concurrence. There were no objections; the Committee goes on record as having reviewed and approved the Summer 2009 recommended course, credit and concentration changes.

Mary Lowry, Assistant to the Dean, reported on new associate dean appointments in the Graduate College, noting that Jennifer Hammer will serve on EPC this coming year.
V. Old Business.

Subcommittee C

EP.09.75, Proposal from the Graduate College and the Illinois Informatics Institute to Establish an Informatics Ph.D. Program. Subcommittee Chair Natasha Jankowski explained there was a delay in producing the recommended revisions to this proposal over the summer months. She expects that the item will be ready for EPC action at the August 31 meeting.

VI. New Business.

Subcommittee A

EP.10.01, Proposal to establish a Concentration in Korean in the B.S. in Elementary Education and the B.S. in Early Childhood, College of Education. Subcommittee Chair Michael Krassa moved that EPC approve the proposal pending additional changes. Upon vote, the motion was approved.

EP.10.02, Proposal to establish MS in Technical Systems Management and an optional graduate Concentration in the Professional Science Master’s Program, Colleges of GRAD and ACES. Chair Krassa said there are some staffing issues that need to be resolved, noting that this proposal will require approval by the IBHE, and he asked that EPC discussion of the item be tabled until the August 31 meeting.

Subcommittee B

EP.10.03, Proposal to eliminate the MS in the Teaching of Kinesiology in the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, Colleges of GRAD and AHS. Subcommittee Chair Phillip Geil recommended approval of this proposal. Upon vote, the motion was approved.

EP.10.04, Proposal to eliminate six Master of Teaching Degrees, Colleges of GRAD and LAS. Chair Geil recommended approval by EPC. Upon vote, the motion was approved.

Subcommittee C

EP.10.05, Proposal to establish a BALAS in Latina/Latino Studies, College of LAS. Chair Jankowski moved approval, pending recommended changes. Upon vote, the motion was approved.

EP.10.06, Proposal from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science to establish a BS in Informatics. This proposal was not received in time for consideration at today’s meeting; however, as elements relate to EP.09.75, Subcommittee C will undertake a review of the proposal and report back to the full Committee.

VII. Pending Items.

Subcommittee A

EP.08.26, Proposal from the College of Business’ Academic for Entrepreneurial Leadership to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship. It was agreed to remove this item from the Committee’s agenda.

VIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Christa Petrillo
Recording Secretary

Approved as written; August 31, 2009