Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Minutes of Meeting
April 5, 2010

Present: Abbas Aminmansour, Chair; Max Ellithorpe, Bettina Francis, Poshek Fu, Phillip Geil, Tania Ionin, Natasha Jankowski, Michael Krassa, Jacqueline McDowell, Jordan McNamara, Steve Michael, Gay Miller, Lori Newcomb, David Olsen

Ex officio: Brenda Clevenger, Laurie Kramer, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Carol Malmgren

Guests: Carol Livingstone, Mary Lowry, Ann Mester, Lucy Rich, Pam Santic, James Anderson, Gloria Jeg

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order at 1:10 p.m., on Monday, April 5, in 232 English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the March 15 meeting were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair. In the interest of time, Chair Aminmansour deferred his remarks; although, he noted that Interim Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Wheeler will join EPC at its April 12 meeting to discuss potential reorganization of the Institute of Aviation and related issues.

III. Updates from the Provost’s Office and Graduate College.

Ms. Kuntz reported the following requests for administrative approval:

FAA, Bachelor of Music Education (BME); the School of Music is proposing to allow students additional options for completion of the educational psychology requirement. In addition to EPSY 201, students may now also consider EPSY 202—Exploring Cultural Diversity or EPSY 236—Child Development for Elementary Teachers. The Head of Education Psychology has endorsed the request.

AHS, BS in Recreation, Sport and Tourism; the department would like to change the title of the concentration in Sports Management to Sport Management. “Sport Management” is the correct label in the field.

ACES, Minor in Environmental Economics and Law; the department is proposing to replace UP 108 with UP 408—Law and Planning in a “choose from” list in which students select one course. UP 108 is no longer offered. In addition, CEE 434—Environmental Systems I will be added to a “choose from” list allowing access to the minor for students in Engineering.

Ms. Kuntz will later comment on the Provost’s position regarding support of units’ submission of new degree program proposals in light of the current fiscal climate.

There was no report from the Graduate College.

IV. Old Business

Degree Completion Task Group. Dean Lucy Rich provided an oral update, referring to the draft of the Task Group’s proposed guidelines for degree completion. Chair Aminmansour thanked Ms. Rich and the task group for its efforts and suggested that EPC discuss the report in greater detail at the April 12 meeting.

Final Examinations. Proposed amendments to Section 3-201 of the Student Code were discussed. Several members expressed the view that the amended statement implies that final exams are required for all courses, when a final is not necessary or practicable for some courses. Chair Aminmansour will revise the statement and circulate via email for consideration at the April 12 meeting.
Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa, Chair

* EP.10.37, Proposed Reorganization of the Departments of Educational Organization and Leadership, Educational Policy Studies, and Human Resource Education into one Department with the new name of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership; College of Education. Professor Krassa provided background information on action, leading to a motion to approve the amended proposal for departmental reorganization; the minutes of the public hearing held March 31 were distributed, as well as written comments received. Professor James Anderson, Head of Educational Policy Studies, was present to answer questions related to the number of and impact on enrolled students (including online instruction), preservation of divisions and degree titles, impact on other college faculty and budgetary implications. David Olsen moved that EPC table action, pending receipt of additional information; the motion was seconded and defeated by a show of hands (5 in support of tabling the proposal; 10 opposed). The Committee then voted on the motion to approve the proposal as amended, pending receipt of editorial changes, inclusion of college vote on the reorganization (44 in favor, 8 opposed), statement on graduate student funding/fellowships and composition of dissertation committees, and a budget statement of expenses to be incurred with the change in department title. Upon vote by a show of hands, the motion passed (12 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention).

* EP.10.41, Revisions to the BS Degree in General Engineering, Department of Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering (IESE); College of Engineering. Professor Krassa moved approval of the proposal as revised, pending receipt of an additional letter of support. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil, Chair

EP.10.39, Restructuring the Existing MA in Asian Studies Program into Two Distinct MA Programs: MA in East Asian Studies and MA in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The proposal is under consideration by the subcommittee.

* EP.10.42, Creation of a Minor in Earth, Society, and Environment; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Professor Geil noted the changes requested by the subcommittee, then questioned the need for clarification of course offerings as discussed in EP.10.38 (below). He will suggest that the college include a listing of courses with the description of the minor. He then moved approval of the amended proposal. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Subcommittee C—Natasha Jankowski, Chair

* EP.10.38, Revision and title change of the BSLAS in Earth Systems, Environment and Society; School of Earth, Society and the Environment; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Ms. Jankowski moved approval of the proposal as revised within subcommittee. An extended discussion ensued concerning the need for cross-listing and labeling of “core” courses. Given the concerns expressed, Mr. Olsen moved that further discussion be tabled pending clarification of these matters. The motion was seconded and failed by a show of hands (3 in favor, 7 opposed, 5 abstentions). The motion to approve, pending clarification of the revision of ESE courses and core courses and/or the addition of an advisory statement, was approved by voice vote with three opposed.

* EP.10.40, Revision to the BS Degree in Industrial Engineering, Department of Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering (IESE); College of Engineering. Ms. Jankowski noted that revisions and additional letters of support have been requested, and she moved approval of the proposal pending their receipt. The motion was approved by voice vote.

V. New Business.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa, Chair

EP.10.45, Establish an M.S. in Health Communication; Graduate College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This proposal is under consideration by the subcommittee.
Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil, Chair

EP.10.46, Establish an M.S. in Health Communication; Graduate College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This proposal is under consideration by the subcommittee.

Subcommittee C—Natasha Jankowski, Chair

EP.10.44, Clarify the Policy Regarding How Graduate GPA is Calculated and Revise the Policy Regarding How Repeated Courses are Factored into Graduate GPA. Ms. Malmgren raised a number of questions concerning EPC action on the Graduate Handbook as “policy” and the computation of scholastic averages, specifically related to BANNER calculations of GPA. Given the breadth of issues involved, it was agreed to establish an ad hoc committee in conjunction with the Registrar’s Office to consider the proposal further. EPC unanimously approved a motion to table this item and to refer the matter to an ad hoc task group with the following members: Bettina Francis, Natasha Jankowski (convener), Kristi Kuntz, Mary Lowry, Carol Malmgren, David Olsen and Pam Santic,

VI. Items for Senate. The items marked with an asterisk (*) will be presented for action at the April 26 Senate meeting.

VII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Christa Petrillo
Recording Secretary

Approved as amended, 4/12/10