Present: Abbas Aminmansour, Chair; Marni Boppart, Max Ellithorpe, Bettina Francis, Phillip Geil, Michael Krasa, Jordan McNamara, Steve Michael, Gay Miller, Lori Newcomb, David Olsen, Manas Parikh

Ex officio: Brenda Clevenger, Julian Parrott, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Carol Malmgren

Guests: Lucy Rich, Mary Lowry, Sara Thompson, David Rosch, Lisa Burgoon, Laurie Kramer, David Lange, Walter Hurley, Jan Slater, Jason Chambers, Michael Loui

The first meeting of the 2010-2011 Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order at 1:10 p.m., on Monday, August 30, in 232 English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Welcoming Remarks and Introductions. Chair Aminmansour welcomed new and continuing members to a new Senate year and reviewed the responsibilities and duties of the Educational Policy Committee. He thanked everyone, especially EPC subcommittee chairs, for the work that they will conduct on behalf of the committee and the Senate.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the April 12, 2010 Meeting. The April 12 minutes were approved as written.

III. Remarks of the Chair. Chair Aminmansour reported that he has been meeting regularly with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Wheeler, Vice Provost Barbara Wilson and Associate Provost Mike Andrechak along with Senate Executive Committee Chair (SEC) Joyce Tolliver, SEC Vice-Chair Matthew Wheeler and University Senates Conference Representative Nick Burbules. They discuss Stewarding Excellence @ Illinois project team reports and recommendations.

Professor Aminmansour also indicated that the work flow system for online review of EPC proposals is progressing.

IV. Updates from the Provost’s Office and Graduate College. Ms. Kuntz will provide proposals for administrative approval at our next meeting. Meantime, the Grade Replacement Policy has been included in the Student Code. She further reported that the Provost’s Office has developed new guidelines for EPC proposals with respect to budgetary guidelines. A revised proposal format is posted at the EPC web site. There was no report from the Graduate College.

V. Old Business

Degree Completion Task Group. Discussion was deferred.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa, Chair

EP.10.48, Proposal from the College of ACES to establish a minor in Leadership Studies. Subcommittee Chair Krassa moved approval of the proposal. There was extensive discussion concerning the qualifications of instructors; specifically, the small number of tenure-track faculty that would be assigned. Chair Aminmansour iterated the role of EPC in approving proposals, noting that it is not within EPC purview to evaluate how courses are to be taught; rather that such decisions remain within the unit’s jurisdiction. The group also discussed budgetary implications, which have been approved by the Provost's Office, and how the minor would be stated on a student's transcript. Professor Krassa moved approval of the proposal. Upon vote by a show of hands, the motion failed: 5 in favor; 6 opposed.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil, Chair

EP.10.46, Revise BFA in New Media Proposal; College of Fine and Applied Arts. Professor Geil moved approval of the proposal with editorial revisions. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.
Subcommittee C—Bettina Francis, Chair

EP.10.22, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish an Interdisciplinary Minor in Museum Studies. There was no discussion.

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. This proposal was pulled from the EPC agenda in lieu of two new proposals to be submitted on the same subject in the near future.

EP.10.47, Proposal from the Senate Educational Policy Committee to make changes in Final Exam Policies. This item was referred back to Committee at the April 26 Senate meeting and will be considered by an EPC task group to refine its recommendations.

VI. New Business.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa, Chair

EP.11.01, Proposal from the GRAD College and College of Media to Revise the M.S. in Advertising. Professor Krassa addressed clarifications that had been communicated via email and moved approval of the proposal. The proposal was approved for Senate action on October 4.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil, Chair

EP.11.02, Proposal from the College of LAS to Establish New Minors: Integrative Biology; Conservation Biology. Subcommittee Chair Geil indicated that the proposal is not yet ready for EPC endorsement.

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

Christa Petrillo
Recording Secretary