A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order at 1:10 p.m., on Monday, November 15, in 232 English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Announcements. Chair Aminmansour greeted one and all and welcomed the day’s guest speakers.

II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the October 4 and October 25 minutes were distributed via email for comment and approval.

III. Remarks of the Chair. Chair’s remarks were deferred so the group might deliberate on the business at hand.

IV. Updates from the Provost’s Office and Graduate College. Assistant Provost Kristi Kuntz provided a summary of recent administrative approvals, which will be distributed to the Committee via email.

There was no report from the Graduate College.

V. Old Business.

Degree Completion Task Group. Dean Rich reviewed the task force recommendations; the report will be redistributed for discussion at the next EPC meeting.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa

* EP.11.11, Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of LAS to Establish a Professional Science Master’s Concentration in the MS in Plant Biology. Chair Krassa moved approval of the proposal pending revisions related to PSM internships. The motion was seconded and approved.

EP.11.08, Proposal from the College of LAS to eliminate the B.S. in Biophysics. Following discussion, it was agreed to table EPC action until questions related to the transfer of biophysics to another area are fully addressed.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil. Action on EP.11.04 and EP.11.05 (as titled below) was deferred so that representatives from the Senate Conference on Conduct Governance could be present to address concerns related to CCG’s role in this matter. Meantime, Chair Aminmansour, SEC Chair Joyce Tolliver, USSP Chair William Maher and others will discuss CCG purview and interest in these issues. The motion to defer action was approved (with 2 opposed).

EP.11.04, Proposal from the Graduate College to revise the policy regarding how repeated courses are factoring into graduate GPA’s.

EP.11.05, Proposal from the Graduate College to clarify the policy regarding how graduate GPA’s are calculated.

VI. New Business.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa

* EP.11.15, Proposal from the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs to eliminate the BS in Aviation Human Factors and the MS in Human Factors in the Institute of Aviation. Aspects of the proposal, such as background on the AVIA study, future of current students and teaching/research faculty, were addressed by Vice-Chancellor Wheeler. Aviation Director Tom
Emanuel asked that EPC postpone action until the Spring semester in order to respond to admissions for future enrollment. The group engaged in a lengthy discussion about the merits of the proposal and the manner in which it was presented. Chair Krassa moved approval of the proposal in order to facilitate EPC action on the matter. The motion was seconded. EPC members expressed concern about the process of reassigning faculty in the unit, as well as the manner in which the unit was proposed to be dissolved. Upon show of hands, EPC approved EP.11.15 for Senate action, with three dissenting votes. Subsequently, Mr. Ellithorpe moved that the Senate Executive Committee investigate the process by which the programs were eliminated and the manner in which faculty are reassigned. SEC Chair Joyce Tolliver surmised that the matter would then be referred to the Senate Committees on Academic Freedom and Tenure and General University Policy, and she asked that EPC outline its request for a formal referral. Mr. Ellithorpe moved that an EPC task force be formed to create a document addressing the practice of moving faculty with respect to reorganization of units/departments. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil**

* EP.11.13, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the curriculum and reduce the required minimum hours for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) degree. Chair Geil moved approval with revisions to the original proposal, which had been previously distributed. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Subcommittee C—Bettina Francis**

EP.11.14, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Religion degree. Action on this proposal is not yet ready for EPC and was deferred to the next meeting.

**VII. Pending Proposals.**

EP.10.47, Proposal from the Senate Educational Policy Committee to make changes in Final Exam Policies. There was no discussion.

Plus/Minus Grading System. A subcommittee chaired by Professor Geil was appointed to discuss issues related to the request for review of plus/minus grading, including grade regulations and definitions.

**VIII. Adjournment.** With best wishes till we meet again, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Christa Petrillo
Recording Secretary

Approved via email, January 31, 2011

* Indicates approval for the December 6 Senate consent agenda.