A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order at 1:10 p.m., on Monday, January 31, in 232 English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Announcements. Chair Aminmansour welcomed one and all; those present introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the November 15 meeting 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 written summary of administrative approvals which took place between December 2010 and January 2011 (incorporated by reference in these minutes). There was no report from the Graduate College.

V. Old Business.

* Degree Completion Task Group. Dean Rich reviewed the history behind the establishment of proposed guidelines for degree completion, as well as implications for students. The proposal was accepted by the Committee and will be presented to the Senate for action at the February 28 meeting.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil. Nora Few, former dean in the Graduate College, and Kevin Waspi, Chair of the Conference on Conduct Governance, were present to address EP.11.04 and EP.11.05 (titled below) regarding calculation of graduate GPA’s, including undergraduate courses used in graduate degree completion. The Committee discussed degree requirements as pertains to graduate level course requirements and GPA’s configured on undergraduate and graduate level courses. Professor Geil moved that EPC send the proposals back to the Graduate College Executive Committee for reconsideration of dual GPA assignment of courses, noting that technical issues (i.e., BANNER) may come into play. The motion was accepted without Committee vote. The Registrar’s Office, in consultation with the Graduate College, will discuss options of displaying a Graduate GPA on the transcript. It was also suggested that, if the Graduate College chooses to proceed with the proposals, Chair Aminmansour, Professor Waspi, Nora Few, and David Olsen would be willing to participate in consideration of the proposals by the Graduate College Executive Committee.

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.

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. Professor Francis reported that there has been no word from the sponsors of this proposal to EPC queries. She will contact them via email for an update.

VI. New Business.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa. None of the proposals listed below were acted upon at today’s meeting. Supporting documentation and revisions discussed by the subcommittee have been requested; discussion will take place at the February 7 meeting.
EP.11.19, Proposal from the College of ACES to revise and rename the Agri-Finance concentration as the Finance in Agriculture concentration in the B.S. in Agricultural and Consumer Economics.

EP.11.20, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the M.S. in Astronomy.

EP.11.21, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the Ph.D. in Astronomy.

EP.11.23, Proposal from the College of FAA to create two new concentrations, one in instrumental conducting-wind band and one in instrumental conducting-orchestra.

EP.11.26, Proposal from the College of ACES to establish an undergraduate minor in Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies.

EP.11.30, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Gender and Women’s Studies.

Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil

* EP.11.18, Proposal from the Graduate College to add a master’s thesis as an optional alternative to the master’s examination in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Professor Geil moved that the proposal be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

* EP.11.24, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the MFA in Creative Writing. Professor Geil moved that the proposal be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

* EP.11.25, Proposal from the College of Engineering to revise the B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering. Professor Geil noted minor changes in wording requested by the subcommittee; he moved approval pending these revisions. The motion was seconded and, upon vote, approved.

EP.11.29, Proposal from Associate Provost Keith Marshall to reconsider the Dual Credit Policy. Discussion of the proposal was deferred to the February 7 meeting.

Subcommittee C—Bettina Francis

EP.11.16, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise and rename the Interdisciplinary Minor in Gender and Women Studies as the Undergraduate Minor in Gender and Women’s Studies. EPC asked that a list of course changes be provided.

EP.11.17, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the Undergraduate Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies. EPC asked that a list of course changes be provided.

* EP.11.22, Proposal from the College of ACES to revise the M.S. in Agricultural Education. Professor Francis moved that the proposal be approved with the changes proposed by Professor Geil. The motion was seconded and, upon vote, approved.

* EP.11.27, Proposal from the College of ACES to revise the B.S. in Horticulture. Professor Francis noted the need for realignment of the table structure and, on behalf of the subcommittee, moved approval of the proposal with this change. The motion was seconded and, upon vote, approved.

EP.11.28, Proposal from the College of ACES to establish a minor in Horticulture. Discussion of this item was deferred to the February 7 meeting.

VII. Pending Proposals. Discussion was deferred to the February 7 meeting.

Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa

EP.11.08, Proposal from the College of LAS to eliminate the B.S. in Biophysics.

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.

Subcommittee C—Bettina Francis

EP.10.47, Proposal from the Senate Educational Policy Committee to make changes in Final Exam Policies.

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

* Indicates approval for the February 28 Senate consent agenda.

Christa Petrillo, Recording Secretary
Approved as written, March 7, 2011