I. Welcoming Remarks and Introductions – Chair Miller welcomed all new and returning committee members and guests. All those present introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 28, April 4, April 11 (approved via email 4/18/2011) – The minutes were approved as written.

III. Remarks of the Chair – Chair Miller discussed the communication that the Educational Policy Committee (EPC) received from the Attorney General’s office regarding Open Meetings Act (OMA). Chair Miller indicated that the letter specifically addressed posting agendas and minutes in a particular time frame. Chair Miller invited Abbas Aminmansour, former EPC Chair, to comment on the letter from the Attorney General’s Office regarding OMA. Former Chair Aminmansour shared that the Attorney General’s office dismissed the complaint that EPC had secret meetings which was not the case. Aminmansour indicated that EPC needs to be diligent in complying with OMA especially since the committee was formally notified of items that were not in compliance.

Andrea Golato requested that proposals and agendas be distributed sooner. Phillip Geil requested that the Provost Office scan proposals at a smaller file size so they are easier to download.

IV. Updates from the Provost’s Office and Graduate College – Kristi Kuntz brought examples (handout) of administrative approvals. Committee members agreed with the types of items suggested to be approved administratively and this will become practice moving forward. Chair Miller indicated that this process has successfully been used in the past. This helps decrease the amount of proposals that need to move through the committee by 25-30 proposals per year. Kristi Kuntz and Chair Miller both review potential items for administrative approval.

Andrea Golato indicated that there was no update from the Graduate College. Administrative approvals from the Graduate College will be presented at the next meeting.

V. Old Business

A. Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa

EP.11.33 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to reorganize the Asian American Studies Program as the Department of Asian American Studies (Public Hearing was held April 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 210 Illini Union) – A discussion was held concerning the costs of this program becoming a department, but was determined that any significant costs would not be included in this particular proposal. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.

B. Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil

EP.11.04 Proposal from the Graduate College to revise the policy regarding how repeated courses are factoring into graduate GPA’s. The proposal was approved by the subcommittee, but returned to EPC by Senate. The Graduate School is still working on revisions.

EP.11.05 Proposal from the Graduate College to clarify the policy regarding how graduate GPA’s are calculated. The proposal was approved by the subcommittee, but returned to EPC by Senate. A summary of the issue the proposal addresses was given. It was determined that Carol Malmgren will forward additional information to Chair Miller.
VI. New Business

A. Subcommittee A—Michael Krassa, Chair; Cody Chalkey, Brenda Clevenger, Prasanta Kalita, Keith Marshall, Eric Meyer, Richard Mintel, Catherine Murphy

EP.12.01 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the BSLAS in Atmospheric Sciences. This proposal contains typos and clarifying language on the hours calculations are needed.

EP.12.04 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Psychology. The subcommittee was not ready to discuss this proposal.

EP.12.10 Proposal from the Council on Teacher Education and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the BALAS in English: English concentration and English Teaching concentration. The subcommittee was not ready to discuss this proposal.

B. Subcommittee B—Phillip Geil, Chair; Trevor Eagle, Andrea Golato, Shana Harrison, Jerome McDonough, Steve Michael, Paul Prior, Lucy Rich

EP.12.06 Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to create a Senior Art History "Distinction" Program for students in the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art History. The subcommittee indicated that more discussion within the subcommittee was needed before requesting approval.

EP.12.07 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Business to establish a graduate minor in Accountancy. The subcommittee indicated that more discussion within the subcommittee was needed before requesting approval.

EP.12.08 Proposal from the College of Engineering to establish the undergraduate minor in Electrical and Computer Engineering. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.

C. Subcommittee C—Bettina Francis, Chair; Damani Bolden, Pradeep Dhillon, Paul Diehl, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Chris Royer

EP.12.02 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to change the name of the Department of Geography to the Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.

EP.12.03 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to change the name of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Geography to Geography and Geographic Information Science and revise portions of the major. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.

EP.12.05 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish a Master of Science in Cell and Developmental Biology. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote.

EP.12.09 Proposal from the Council on Teacher Education and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the Social Science: History Teaching concentration. The proposal was approved for Senate action by voice vote pending receipt of changes.

D. 2012-13 Academic Calendar (K. Kuntz)—Kristi Kuntz discussed the grades processing challenges. In the 2012-13 academic year, the way the calendar falls, the time constraints are even tighter than during other academic years. This process effects financial aid. The University does not want to award financial aid to students who are no longer continuing at the University due to the difficulties in retrieving the financial aid. Final grades need to be collected in a timely fashion so decisions can be made about dropping students.

Given that this is a complex issue, a subcommittee consisting of Trevor Eagle, Bettina Francis, Kristi Kuntz, Carol Malmgren, Steven Michael, Gay Miller, and Charles Tucker was formed to further discuss this issue.

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 pm.