Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, August 27, 2012
Minutes

Present: Gay Miller, Chair; Lauren Eiten, Bettina Francis, Brock Gebhardt, Phillip Geil, Sarah Halko, Prasanta Kalita, Jerome McDonough, Eric Meyer, Steve Michael, Paul Prior, and Pratap Vanka.


Guests: Rod Hoewing, Associate Registrar for Student Systems; Mary Lowry, Graduate College Director of Academic Programs & Policy; and Amy Edwards, Assistant Provost & Director of the Division of Management Information.

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 1:11 pm on Monday, August 27, 2012 in Room 232 English Building, with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

1. Introductions
   New members and guests were introduced. Affiliations are noted above for guests that attended.

2. Approval of Minutes
   The minutes from April 16, 2012 were approved as written.

3. Chair’s Remarks
   Chair Miller welcomed everyone to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy. Chair Miller recognized Andrea Golato for the work she did last year as Graduate College EPC representative, and welcomed her replacement this year, Bill Buttlar. Chair Miller recognized Charles Tucker for the work he did last year as the Undergraduate Deans EPC representative, and welcomed his replacement this year, Michael Adrejasich. Chair Miller asked all committee members to read the minutes and be prepared before the next meeting; that decreases the amount of time for minutes approval during formal meeting time. Chair Miller also shared that the committee is currently 2 members short at this time and asked for members to consider people they would recommend for nomination to the committee.

4. Provost’s Office Updates (Kristi Kuntz)
   Kuntz reviewed the basic administrative approval process and reported 4 proposals were administratively approved this summer. A handout listing these approvals was distributed. There were no specific questions related to these proposals.

5. Grad College Update (William Buttlar)
   A. Items Administratively Approved by the Graduate College between 5/7/2012 and 8/27/2012:
      i. Minor revision to the Master of Science in Computer Science involving changing the distribution courses requirement to a breadth requirement and changing from the advanced courses requirement to having one 500-level course be chosen from one of three areas selected in the breadth requirement. The M.S. in Computer Science degree has not been revised in about 30 years, so these revisions are needed to better accommodate the changes that have occurred within the field of computer science as well as the needs of the students seeking the degree. Administratively approved by Grad College on May 7, 2012.
      ii. Minor revision to the Executive MBA Program in Chicago involving eliminating the “Quantitative Analysis” (BADM 573) course, adding the four credit required elective course “Emerging Markets & Sustainability” (BADM 590) to replace BADM 573, and changing the
“Strategic Technology Management” (BADM 590) course to two 2-credit courses entitled “Fostering Creative Thinking” and “Strategic Human Capital.” These changes will help with implementation of the updated, contemporary brand positioning strategy for the EMBA entitled “Innovative Leadership in a Connected World.” Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 07/31/2012.

iii. Minor revision to the Graduate Minor in Accountancy involving the inclusion of seven additional courses from which the minor of three required courses can be chosen. The additional courses will allow students to enroll in more advanced accounting courses depending on their background. This will also allow the minor to be more attractive to students in Business Administration and Finance graduate programs. Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 07/31/2012.

iv. Minor revisions to the Master of Music curricula. These revisions standardize the MMUS curricula while at the same time maintaining their differences. All concentrations except for Music Theory and Musicology will now require MUS 528 for 2 hours, which will enrich students’ knowledge of research methods and their research skills across the school. In most cases this is balanced by a reduction in elective hours. For the instrumental conducting concentrations in band and orchestra, the course choices for fulfilling the music theory and music history requirements were revised so that the option for performance practice will also count for these students. Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 08/06/2012.

v. Minor revisions to the Doctor of Musical Arts curricula. These revisions apply to all the DMA concentrations except for Piano Pedagogy. All concentrations except for Piano Pedagogy will now require MUS 528 for 4 hours, which will enrich students’ knowledge of research methods. In addition, a reduction in project hours applied to the degree from 24 to 16. A uniform revision of the current requirement for music literature as open choice courses to fulfill a minimum hour’s requirement, to require students to choose from a selected course list to meet these requirements in the areas of advanced music theory and advanced music history. A slight reduction in electives was required to implement these changes. Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 08/06/2012.

vi. Minor revisions to the Graduate Minor in Gender & Women’s Studies: Require the newly revised GWS 550 Feminist Theories and Methods, thus eliminating the option to choose between GWS 550 and GWS 570 Feminist Research Social Sciences & require students to take 4 hours of GWS 590 Topics in Gender and Women’s Studies instead of an elective 400 or 500 level GW course, effective in fall 2013. Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 08/21/2012.

vii. Buttlar will provide a handout similar to Kuntz with this information for future EPC meetings.

6. New Business
   A. Assessment of Fall 2012
      i. Calendar focusing on final examination schedule and campus communications – G Miller and K. Kuntz: Chair Miller reviewed that EP.12.11 was a revision to the calendar which allowed for Saturday finals, and moving up the time for grades submission (earlier grades submission) than the original fall calendar for 2012. She reminded the committee that this occurred because of compression of dates because of the late Fall start and short winter break (early start of winter semester). Senate approved of Saturday finals and asked that EPC assess the impact of this calendar. Kuntz reviewed the communications that have occurred to date that
relate, reporting that an announcement was made last January about this by Provost’s Office. Also, a follow-up announcement will go out this Wednesday for fac/staff/students. There was also a reminder that this situation of compressed time between semesters will likely reoccur every 7 or so years. The floor was opened to discuss the kinds of assessments that would be best for assessing the revised calendar. Kuntz shared some of the Provost’s Office reasons for tweaking and still respecting holidays, policy, etc. The calendar affects course redesign decisions too for faculty, and course deadlines. Deadline for submission of grades has been moved up by 1 day which affects faculty work that may now need to be done during a holiday. Items for assessment to consider that were mentioned: surveys – faculty, student, staff; creation of a subcommittee was rejected since this interests most/all of EPC; what are the Undergraduate Deans planning to do (Michael Adrejasich will check to learn what is being done); what data is normally gathered that would help. Items where data should be collected included:
   a. the change in the number of individuals requesting a change in examination time;
   b. how many students and faculty are actually affected by Saturday finals.
Rod Hoewing said he would check to make sure that these two items could be tracked. This will be revisited again in the future.

B. Annual EPC Report from last year was submitted.

C. Subcommittee A – Paul Prior, Chair; Carey Ash, William Buttlar, Brenda Clevenger, Bettina Francis, Prasanta Kalita, and Eric Meyer.
   i. EP.13.02: Proposal to terminate the Master of Science in General Engineering, in the Department of Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering, College of Engineering. No major changes; effectively seconded by the subcommittee. EP.13.02 passed by vote of full committee.
   ii. EP.13.01: Proposal to establish a Graduate Concentration in Romance Linguistics in the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, the Department of French, and the Department of Linguistics, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Committee discussed the proposal. Prior recommended that no action be taken; revisions are expected and there is a recognized need for feedback from other involved depts. Carried forward as old business.

D. Subcommittee B – Phil Geil, Chair; Michael Andrejasich, Darin Eastburn, Brock Gebhardt, Sarah Halko, Stacey Kostell, Jerome McDonough, and Angharad Valdivia.
   i. EP.13.07: Proposal to Establish a Master of Engineering Degree in the College of Engineering, which can have majors or concentrations per dept. Geil discussed requirements, and his reasons based on subcommittee comments to approve. Kuntz said M-Eng would have to get Board approval as well as state approval and described this proposal as creating the shell for proposals that would use the M. Eng degree. Comparisons of thesis and non-thesis degree options were discussed. There was the mention of access to finance related courses. There was discussion about double counting of courses for two degrees and how that worked; Kuntz shared that all hours beyond 120 hours (which applied to a B.S. degree) could count toward a second degree. Committee wanted more details before considering further and requested to receive and discuss two other forthcoming related proposals, currently under consideration by the Graduate College, for a Major in Engineering and a Concentration in Energy Systems, listed in and related to 13.07 prior to further discussion.
   ii. EP.13.08: Proposal to Establish a New Major in Materials Engineering in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering for the degree of Master of Engineering; and EP.13.09: Proposal to Establish a New Combined Bachelor of Science in
Materials Science and Engineering-Master of Engineering with a Major in Materials Engineering in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, College of Engineering. General discussion of proposals EP.13.07, EP.13.08, and EP.13.09 continued. Geil also mentioned minor revisions were needed for EP.13.07. The committee will await revisions and the additional proposals.

All Subcommittee B proposals carried forward as old business.

E. **Subcommittee C – Steve Michael, Chair; Lauren Eiten, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Gary Schnitkey, and Surva (Pratap) Vanka.**

i. EP.13.03: Proposal to Revise the NRES (Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences) Concentration Requirements: Resource Conservation and Restoration Ecology Concentration.

ii. EP.13.04: Proposal to Revise the NRES (Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences) Concentration Requirements: Global Change & Landscape Dynamics Concentration.

iii. EP.13.05: Proposal to Revise the NRES (Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences) Concentration Requirements: Fish and Wildlife Conservation Concentration.

iv. EP.13.06: Proposal to Revise the NRES (Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences) Concentration Requirements: Human Dimensions of the Environment Concentration.

Regarding all four proposals: Michael reported that the sponsor had made corrections for clarity at the subcommittee’s request. Michael also reported that the changes reflect the addition and retirement of faculty; the department does not expect to make new hires as a result of the change. There remains a question whether the sum of the course hours are added correctly. Francis and others asked whether there was concurrence from outside departments whose courses were employed, even as electives, in the concentrations. The committee discussed general protocols and who should be informed about changes. After some discussion, it was the sense of the committee to ask for formal emails of concurrence. A general policy question was raised: what level of concurrence should be required going forward for proposals in the future? To be discussed further. Francis noted that with money following IU’s there may be financial pressures for units to create courses or drop courses and not inform other units what they are doing. The committee chose to ask sponsors to notify departments whose courses were being dropped in NRES, without giving them a veto. The committee will await revisions and appropriate concurrences. All Subcommittee C proposals forward as old business.

F. Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm.

Rachel Glasa
Senate Staff