A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order at 1:11 p.m. on Monday, January 28, 2013 in Room 232 English Building, with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

I. Introductions
Chair Miller invited guests and members to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes
Minutes from the meeting on January 14, 2013 will stand approved.

III. Chair’s Remarks (Miller)
None

IV. Provost’s Office Updates (Kuntz)
None

V. Graduate College Updates (Buttlar)
Minor revision to the Biochemistry Ph.D. program involving removal of the written literature examinations requirement, effective fall 2013. Similar to programs around the nation. Could reduce duration of degree completion. Administratively approved by the Graduate College on 01/14/2013.

VI. Report on Coursera (Buttlar, Kalita, McCarthy)
Buttlar says campus-wide RFP will be released on 1/29/13; waiting for funding and a finished preamble. Three-stage proposal process.

VII. A&A Deans feedback on Saturday finals/shortened break period (Kuntz)
Miller reminded committee of Ed Pol’s charge related to this issue. Kuntz says undergraduate offices did not hear of any issues that need resolving except for missing grades, and departments were able to work through that issue. Kuntz and Hoewing will put together a report for the Senate.

VIII. Certificates Discussion (Kuntz)
Kuntz passed out copies of inventory and summary reports she created. Kuntz is working with college offices and CEED to compile information. GUP brought this issue up as a concern. Formalize the process? Formalized definitions and governance is important. Certificate programs are flexible, but often misleading for students. Rigorous approval process for stand-alone Certificate Programs per federal government. Financial aid available at graduate level only; not for non-degree-seeking students or for professional development. Recruiting is difficult without financial aid available. Abbreviated non-degree admissions process for professional development certificates. Why does a certificate make sense as opposed to a minor? Helps to establish expectations of new students: degree-seeking, long-term, or certificate-only for professional development. Transcript recognition important too. Committee wants clarity on these issues. A motion was made and passed to form a sub-committee to evaluate Certificates; committee approved by voice vote. Certificate Committee volunteers were: Carney, Halko, Kuntz, Lesht, Meyer, and Prior. Kuntz will organize first meeting.

IX. Old Business
A. Subcommittee B – Phil Geil, Chair; Michael Andrejasich, Brock Gebhardt, Sarah Halko, Stacey Kostell, Randy McCarthy, and Jerome McDonough.

i. EP.13.19: Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a New Graduate Minor in Queer Studies, in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies
Funding and staffing concerns? Six current faculty, which is sufficient for courses. Role and value of the minor? Supplements a student’s PhD; provides increased attractiveness for graduates as potential hires, especially to smaller colleges and universities. A minor shows theoretical and methodological expertise in the field; is more polished than just taking a couple courses in an area. Offers students a stand-alone option for declaring this minor without tying it to the GWS program/major. Helpful for future faculty recruiting. Queer Studies wants the same legitimate recognition as Math, English, and other traditional programs; minors will help that. New discipline is emerging; importance for the field and for the job market; similar to the emergence of Computer Science years ago; it is an evolutionary process. Per Buttlar, the Graduate College’s policy on minors encourages expertise; there is a vague part regarding overlap which is being discussed. Currently there is no PhD. Committee approved by voice vote; one opposition; no abstentions.

A. Subcommittee A – Paul Prior, Chair; Carey Ash, William Buttlar, Brenda Clevenger, Susan Curtis, Bettina Francis, Prasanta Kalita, and Eric Meyer.
i. **EP.13.14**: Proposal to Permanently Establish the Center on Health, Aging, and Disability in the College of Applied Health Sciences

Revision still underway in AHS.

ii. **EP.13.18**: Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Engineering to revise the Master of Computer Science (M.C.S.) in Computer Science

Both of these proposals are on hold per Prior.

B. **Subcommittee C - Steve Michael, Chair; Lauren Eiten, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Leslie Struble, and Pratap Vanka.**

i. **EP.13.17**: Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Fine and Applied Arts to terminate the Ed.D. degree in Music Education

Michael received no response from sponsors for one (Andrejasich reminded he is available to help if needed) and from sub-committee on the other; both of these proposals are on hold until the next Ed Pol meeting. Contact will be made again.

X. **New Business**

A. **Subcommittee A – Paul Prior, Chair; Carey Ash, William Buttlar, Brenda Clevenger, Susan Curtis, Bettina Francis, Prasanta Kalita, and Eric Meyer.**

i. **EP.13.23**: Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a New Graduate Minor in Global Studies

Possibility of Center for Global Studies disappearing? Sociology will pick it up? If CGS goes and IPS takes over, transfer of administrative functions is not clear. Concern that departmental support is missing in some courses. Is this a coherent program? Course requirements seem to be all over the map. Justification? Concern that approach will not bring students and faculty together, as is proposed. Further discussion suggested at next meeting; Prior will invite sponsors to join in.

ii. **EP.13.24**: Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a Concentration in Spanish Literatures and Cultures within the MA in Spanish in the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese

The sub-committee has concerns with the term “concentration”; Prior thought it was a proposal to revise a major. Per Kuntz, the term “concentration” is protected and it is transcriptable; since 2004 with BANNER. Other questions relate to multiple use of language re: concentrations. Kuntz agrees that units need to unify their use of the word;
Carney will amend the proposal if needed. Questions were raised on requirements. Kuntz and Carney will investigate to clarify for students. Committee will reconsider revised proposal at the next Ed Pol meeting.

iii. **EP.13.27:** Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to eliminate the concentration in Hebrew Language and Literature in the Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics

Per Prior, Hebrew Languages is moving to JCS. No concerns received. Linguistics major had 2 concentrations but is now going to only 1; letter from the Library was included for new programs. Could it have been admin-approved? No per Kuntz because creation/elimination of concentrations must be approved by the Senate, reported to the BOT and the IBHE. Prior moved approval; committee approved by voice vote.

**B. Subcommittee B – Phil Geil, Chair; Michael Andrejasich, Brock Gebhardt, Sarah Halko, Stacey Kostell, Randy McCarthy, and Jerome McDonough.**

i. **EP.13.25:** Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Terminate the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology

ii. **EP.13.28:** Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to rename the Bachelor of Arts in Russian Language and Literature to Slavic Studies

Committee expressed concerns about the drop from 48 to 30 hours. Geil says there was no justification for 48 to begin with. Carney says the revision came forward because department sponsors felt that 12 hours of supporting coursework was detrimental to students’ timeline/graduation deadline. Students are still expected to take a certain number of hours beyond the basic Slavic requirements. No budgetary implications? More interest in heritage languages than solely Russian; more recent hires in Polish, Ukrainian; fits current interests of students. Geil moved approval; committee voted by voice to approve.

iii. **EP.13.29:** Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish a New Major Leading to a Masters of Science in Plant Biotechnology in Conjunction with a Professional Science Master's Concentration within the Department of Plant Biology

Geil noted that EP.13.25 and EP.13.29 are related. Geil stated a discussion course has two sections now; one section being lecture, and the other being project- or research-related. Suggestion made to come up with a different course number for that; sponsor agrees. Committee moved to approve EP.13.25 and EP.13.29 by voice vote.

**C. Subcommittee C - Steve Michael, Chair; Lauren Eiten, Kristi Kuntz, Faye Lesht, Leslie Struble, and Pratap Vanka.**
i. **EP.13.22:** Proposal from the College of Business to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy

ii. **EP.13.26:** Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to a new non-thesis option in the Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics

iii. **EP.13.30:** Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program

These proposals were not discussed. The committee was encouraged to read and provide input/evaluation of these proposals.

XI. **Other New Business**

A. **LAS Proposals** (Carney)
Concerns with LAS practice of listing only a College sponsor on proposals to Ed Pol; will now list both a College and a departmental sponsor. Carney requested when sub-committee Chairs contact a sponsor, please copy her to facilitate revisions and updates.

XII. **Adjournment – 2:50p.m.**

Rachel Glasa
Senate Staff