Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Monday, February 25, 2013

MINUTES

Present: Gay Miller, Chair; Lauren Eiten; Max Ellithorpe; Bettina Francis; Phillip Geil; Eric Meyer; Steven Michael; Paul Prior.

Ex Officio: Michael Andrejasich, William Buttlar; Brenda Clevenger; Kristi Kuntz; Faye Lesht

Guests: Karen Carney, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Amy Edwards, Assistant Provost & Director, Division of Management Information; Rodney Hoewing, Associate Registrar for Student Systems, Office of the Registrar; Edward Kolodziej, Director, Center for Global Studies; Rich Martin, Department Head and Associate Professor, Journalism; Julian Parrott, Associate Dean for Student Services and Academic Affairs, College of Media

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy was called to order by Chair Gay Miller at 1:10 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013 in Room 232 English Building.

I. Introductions

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the January 28, 2013 meeting stand approved.

III. Chair’s Remarks (Miller)

None

IV. Provost’s Office Updates (Kuntz)

None

V. Graduate College Updates (Buttlar)

None

VI. Report on MOOCs (Buttlar, Kalita, McCarthy)

None

VII. Old Business

A. Illinois Collaborative for Research on Education (Lesht)

Lesht collaborated with Nick Burbules’ Learning Institute to form a research group for faculty; there was a luncheon which brought interested parties together and a website will be created. Discussion at the meeting related to practices and research in education. Collaboration for Research on Education in Teaching is the proposed title of the group but this is still under consideration (CREDIT). Did a faculty luncheon; those attending were interested. Scholarly point of view. Want to survey the students re: needs related to this. The website may eventually become a clearinghouse for related information.

Sub-group met over 2 weeks ago; agreement to continue the conversation. They are separating the different issues they will discuss for graduates vs. undergraduates. Currently they are still in the information gathering phase. Do active certificate programs make more sense? Will meet again before break. Miller suggested a summary of financial differences between a minor and a certificate will be useful. Kuntz will update us soon.

C. 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

No update; proposal still back at the College of 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

Revised version put on Ed Pol website today. Question about statistics on pg. 3; online vs. on-campus enrollment? Revisions made to correct that question and the depth question from the last meeting and a few other small issues. Current enrollment is 50 on-campus and 100 online; the department wants to go up to an additional 50 on-campus and an additional 25 online. Miller says the update is clear. Prior says one adjustment included in the revision is to seek additional support staff/faculty. Miller reminded that she will meet with Provost in March re: EPC concerns relating to increased enrollments, tuition generating degree programs, faculty numbers, etc. Prior moved to approve the revised proposal. Committee approved by voice vote; 1 abstention.

iii. 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

Questions were raised to guest Ed Kolodziej on the basic structure of the requirements; coherence as a minor; possibility of a 2nd global course being developed? On coherence: a seminar is required which provides a broad view of globalization (as a course); has been approved at the 500 level; will be complemented and eventually replaced by a multi-professional course owned by the faculty. The 2 courses will be offered in alternating semesters. Students applying for the minor must have courses vetted and approved by their major advisor; 3-course requirement. Courses will change each semester. Hope for courses outside the major or degree requirements. For example, Professor Tucker in Engineering thought his students would benefit from taking urban planning. 40 other universities across US offer Global Studies as a major or minor. One course is the global seminar plus 2 courses each from an outside department. Why such strict mapping? Can’t a student take 3 from one or a mix? Kolodziej says they are trying to encourage development across disciplines. Committee has concerns with this being a requirement and not an option. If a student does not follow procedure, a minor will not be granted. Kolodziej hopes this minor will increase the professional competitiveness of our students, will help with recruiting, and will help populate seminars. Kolodziej doesn’t see
competition between grads and undergrads for this minor. Committee has concerns with 
the lack of cohesion because of the diversity of the approach; makes it seem more like a 
certificate program and not a minor. Committee suggested field is too broad; two students 
could obtain the same minor notation after having taken completely different courses. 
Kolodziej says narrow protocols aren’t sufficient for this field of study. Committee 
suggested there is ambiguity with who makes decisions: the advisor or the Graduate 
Minor Advisory Committee (GMAC). Kolodziej says advisors can be trusted to develop 
a coherent plan for a student in this field, whether or not the advisor is familiar with the 
field. GMAC maintains control over the minor, while the advisor’s role is more limited. 
Doesn’t that set up a situation for conflict? What about the student advisor who may not 
be supportive of Global Studies? Kolodziej suggested this is a mechanical question to 
translate the program vision to the advisor. Global 500 seminar is student-owned. Large 
readings (100-150 pages) per week; 2 students give summaries and questions, with 
critique by peers in class. Each minor is very customized. Kolodziej believes every PhD 
student needs this minor, which is not logistically possible after much spirited discussion, 
Prior suggested further review in the future meeting after Kolodziej provides clarification 
and revision to address the issues raised and a few smaller technical issues.

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

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

i. EP.13.20: Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to 
revise the BALAS in History, in the Department of History 
Updates will be here in time for the next meeting.

ii. EP.13.22: Proposal from the College of Business to Revise the 
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy 
Revisions have been made. Change from 5 courses at 4 hrs. each to 7 courses at 3 hrs. 
each. Reduces faculty load from 12 hours to 9 hours. Students still have to take the CPA 
afterwards to graduate. Some content will flow into the 2 new classes. Online lectures too 
as required homework. Budgetary impacts will be covered by College of Business; will 
hire 2 more faculty. Michael moved approval; committee approved by voice vote.

iii. 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 
Per Michael, some confusion on this one; requires a thesis currently, but wants to change 
it to a non-thesis option for a Master’s degree. Need to compartmentalize to distinguish 
between the professional-Master’s-no-thesis and the MS achieved just with PhD level 
coursework. Option for some students to get to work on their Ph.D. research without 
writing a thesis first; not just as a consolation prize. Better to require something besides 
the coursework? Why doesn’t 566 count? Can only count so many hours of that course 
against your total; they presume a mathematical competence from the start. Miller
suggested clarification on the issues and invitation for sponsors to attend the next meeting if needed; committee will review again at next meeting.

iv. **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

VIII. 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.13.31**: Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Department of English to revise the Major in the Science and Letters Curriculum: BALAS English- English Concentration and English Teaching Concentration

B. **Subcommittee B – Phil Geil, Chair**: Michael Andrejasich, Brock Gebhardt, Sarah Halko, Stacey Kostell, Randy McCarthy, and Jerome McDonough
   i. **EP.13.32**: Proposal from the College of Media Journalism Department to reorganize and revise the News Editorial major and Broadcast Journalism major as a new unitary Journalism major
   Concentration is defined at college-level not department-level. Geil will revise. We will review at next meeting.

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

IX. Other New Business

A. **ISS resolution AA.2013.20** (Ellithorpe)
   Student senate wants Ed Pol to investigate the issue of shelving programs without Senate oversight and respond by March 31st. Most pressing issue is refusing to admit students to a Master’s degree; seems like a loophole; Aviation program, for example, had to close because of this. Unfair for the department to shelf the program forever, instead of bringing a requested change to the Senate like everyone else must do. Motion for sub-committee to develop a report to look into issue of restructuring. Committee voted 3-for, 1-opposed, 1-abstained. Motion passed. Volunteers for sub-committee? Eiten, Ellithorpe, Francis, Geil, and Carney; Francis will Chair.

X. Adjournment – 3:18p.m.

Rachel Glasa
Senate Staff