Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Monday, October 13, 2014  
MINUTES

Present: Gay Miller, Chair; Amanda Beacham, Bettina Francis, Phillip Geil, Matt Hill, Gary Kling, Randy McCarthy, Jerome McDonough, Eric Meyer, Steven Michael, Sofia Sianis, Jeremy Tyson, ex officio: Karen Carney, Brenda Clevenger, John Hart, Kristi Kuntz, Michel Bellini

Absent: Pradeep Dhillon, John Prussing, Charles Roseman, Michelle Wander, Andrew Woronowicz ex officio: Keith Marshall

Guests: Assistant Provost and Director of the Division of Management Information, Amy Edwards; Alex Scheeline from Chemistry, and Liz Grupe from Air Force Aerospace Studies

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 1:10 pm on Monday, October 13, 2014 in room 232 English Building with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

1. Approval of Minutes
   The minutes from September 29, 2014 were approved as amended.

2. Chair’s Remarks (G. Miller)
   Chair Miller reported the following updates/information to the Committee:
   - The Chancellor and Provost are continuing to work diligently on the elements now needed for putting together the new College of Medicine, work related to EP.15.02.
   - The National Institutes of Health (NIH) invest almost $32 million to increase utility of biomedical research data
     - An initial investment of nearly $32 million in the fiscal year 2014 by NIH’s Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) initiative, which is projected to have a total investment of nearly $656 million through 2020, pending available funds.
   - There will be a Graduate College webinar October 16, 2014 on the overview of the Doctoral Committee Policy.
     - Policies related to doctoral committees, including changes in effect starting Fall 2014.
     - Revisions to the final exam result form.
   - Chair Miller reported she is chairing the University Senates Conference Academic Affairs and Research Committee this year. The areas that AAR has chosen to focus on will be these 4 topic areas, and she encouraged committee members to share what they may learn related to these areas:
     - Academic Analytics
     - Open Access Policy
     - Enrollment Management and Diversity
     - Academic Freedom

3. Office of the Provost Updates and Administrative Approvals EP.15.21 (K. Kuntz)
   Kuntz reported newly hired Assistant Provost for Education Programs, Kathy Martensen, who will take on the course management and will be attending some EPC meetings to get a better understanding of how the program works.

   Kuntz reported on administrative approvals through October 13, 2014; EP.15.21.

   Undergraduate Programs
ENGR - Revise the BS in Mechanical Engineering - The department has recently created a new course ME 270 - Design for Manufacturability, to replace the existing course ME 350 - Design for Manufacturability, which is currently required in the Mechanical Engineering Technical Core. Both the new course and the revisions to ME 350 have been approved and sent to the Registrar's Office for processing.
Report EP.15.21 was approved by the Committee.

4. Graduate College Updates (J. Hart)
Hart commented on programs housed outside of departments need to be addressed and Chair Miller noted the Committee will discuss this at a future EPC meeting.

5. Briefing –CourseLeaf Academic Catalog Overview (Kuntz)
Briefing was deferred to a later EPC meeting.

6. Old Business
A. Graduate Student Concentrations and Minors (Phil Geil)
No new discussion was held.

B. Subcommittee A: Eric Meyer, Chair; Brenda Clevenger, Mitch Dickey, Bettina Francis, Keith Marshall, John Prussing, Jeremy Tyson, Andrew Woronowicz

1. EP.15.14 Proposal requesting MILS 120
Sponsors Alex Scheeline, Chemistry and Liz Grupe, Air Force Aerospace Studies were in attendance for questions of EP.15.14. Meyer gave a brief overview of EP.15.14 and noted the EPC is providing a second level review for this proposal.
Scheeline advised the Committee that the editorial details will be fixed. The Committee discussed how instructors would be assigned and noted this course is more of a humanities class than a typical ROTC or science class and that the course objectives seemed somewhat less analytical, more related to the transfer of information than might be appropriate for a humanities class. They encouraged discussions with CITL to help provide ideas for learning objectives and overall course structure.
Scheeline will revise EP.15.14 and further consideration will be deferred to a future EPC meeting.

2. EP.15.20 Proposal To Endorse the Existing Policies on Graduate Concentrations and Minors
Meyer gave a brief overview of EP.15.20 and of a draft report prepared for the committee. He noted that what he has received to date has been more a restatement than answers to questions. Hart replied to some questions regarding Geil’s research into how minors and concentrations are handled at other institutions.
Committee members suggested the need to encourage credentialed minors and concentrations. The Committee discussed opportunities for students to pursue them and how graduate minors and concentration should best be defined or determined. Discussion focused on a minor being defined as outside of a student’s major and a concentration as within the major. The committee questioned why free electives required for a degree but not specifically required for a major within that degree should not be counted toward a minor.
The Committee also expressed concern that if minors and concentrations have identical requirements, except as to whether hours can count toward a degree, the minor as a credential will fall into disuse.

No vote was taken. Further consideration of EP.15.20 will be deferred to the next EPC meeting.

B. **Subcommittee B:** Jerome McDonough, Chair; Pradeep Dhillon, Phil Geil, Matt Hill, Gary Kling, Kristi Kuntz, Sofja Sianis

1. **EP.15.16 Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Creative Writing (resubmission of EP.14.36)**

   McDonough gave a brief overview of EP.15.16. McDonough moved for approval of EP.15.16. No further discussion was held and the motion to approve EP.15.16 passed by voice and will appear on the November 17, 2014 Senate agenda.

2. **EP.15.18 Proposal to Rename the Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology & Rename MS and PhD**

   McDonough gave a brief overview of EP.15.18 and noted a full statement of the Program of Study (POS) is now attached. McDonough moved for approval of 15.18. No further discussion was held and the motion to approved EP.15.18 passed by voice and will appear on the November 17, 2014 Senate agenda.

C. **Subcommittee C:** Steve Michael, Chair; Amanda Beacham, Michel Bellini, Juan Bernal, John Hart, Randy McCarthy, Charles Roseman, Michelle Wander

1. **EP.15.15 Proposal to Revise the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum (resubmission of EP.14.28)**

   Michael gave a brief overview of EP.15.15 and noted he was waiting for response from the proposal sponsor.

7. **New Business**

   No new business was discussed.

8. **Adjournment**

   The meeting adjourned at 2:48pm.

Rachel Park
Senate Office Staff