Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Monday, March 30, 2015  
MINUTES

Present: Gay Miller, Chair; Bettina Francis, Phillip Geil, Shari Hopkins, Gary Kling, Randy McCarthy, Jerome McDonough, Eric Meyer, Steven Michael, John Prussing, Jeremy Tyson, Michelle Wander  
ex officio: Anna Mehl for Michel Bellini, Karen Carney, Brenda Cleveinger, John Hart, Kristi Kuntz

Absent: Amanda Beacham, Pradeep Dhillon, Matt Hill, Dean Meyer, Sofia Sianis  
ex officio: Keith Marshall

Guests: Professor of Finance and Director of Center for Business & Public Policy, Jeff Brown; College of Business, Dean Larry DeBrock; College of Business, Raj Echambadi; Assistant Provost and Director of Division of Management Information Amy Edwards; Executive Associate Vice Chancellor for Research OVCER, Melanie Loots; ACES Assistant Dean for Student Success, Mary Lowry; Director of Academic Programs and Policies for the Graduate College, Allison McKinney; Provost Office, Deanna Raineri; College of Business, Madhu Viswanatha

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 1:10 pm on Monday, March 30, 2015 in room 232 English Building with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

1. Approval of Minutes
Discussion was held with Hart requesting to amend the March 9, 2015 minutes. The motion was made to amend the minutes of March 9, 2015 by adding the following statement provided by Hart to EP.15.20: “Discussion followed with Hart taking exception (1) that he was not notified of the revision to the proposal, and (2) the language of the preface page, but nevertheless consented to the approval of EP.15.20 Rev 4.”

The motion to approve the amendment to the March 9, 2015 minutes did not pass by voice. The minutes from February 16, March 2, and March 9, 2015 were approved as distributed.

2. Chair’s Remarks (G. Miller)
Chair Miller shared a few highlights detailing the value of a liberal arts education from a Saturday, March 28, 2015 WSJ article (http://www.wsj.com/articles/christopher-scalia-conservatives-please-stop-trashing-the-liberal-arts-1427494073); “differences were not great” for unemployment rates between recent humanities and liberal-arts majors compared to STEM majors, and that “the liberal arts also provide general intellectual tools that reinforce democracy”.

Chair Miller made note of the three meetings approaching in April to ensure EPC business is taken care of.

3. Office of the Provost Updates (K. Kuntz)
No updates.

4. Administrative Approvals (K. Kuntz, K. Martensen)
Martensen reported on the administrative approvals through March 30, 2015; EP.15.70, giving a brief overview.

Report EP.15.70 was approved by the Committee and will appear on the April 6, 2015 Senate agenda.

5. Graduate College Updates (J. Hart)
Hart introduced Allison McKinney, Director of Academic Programs and Policies at the Graduate College.
6. **Report from Subcommittee to Study LOG Document** (Kuntz, Francis, Geil, Hart, Michael)

Kuntz reported that the group is reviewing the document and providing feedback. Kuntz advised that a revised version should be ready to be shared with EPC soon.

7. **Transfer of Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (IPRH) from Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (OVCR)** (Miller, Kuntz)

Kuntz gave a brief overview and noted this will be a proposal that will follow the traditional process. The question that has arisen is if a public hearing is required as part of the process. Discussion followed noting that this transfer is fundamentally different from the Beckman Institute transfer, because there are no faculty appointments in IPRH as there are in Beckman.

Chair Miller advised to M. Loots, Executive Associate Vice Chancellor for Research that the committee finds no objections to this transfer not having a public hearing associated in the normal proposal process. Chair Miller will share this with SEC later in the afternoon (March 30), and get SEC input.

8. **Enrollment Management Annual Report Review** (G. Miller)

None.

9. **Winter Session Report** (K. Kuntz)

Kuntz circulated the Winter Session Report. Kuntz noted general support of the winter session and from an administration standpoint, it was successful. Conversations continue regarding access to financial aid as the Provost’s office is concerned about access for the courses offered during the winter sessions. Interest in offering courses during the Winter Session has been expressed at the graduate level as well. If units opt to offer graduate level courses, the campus will need to engage in a focused discussion regarding the implications on waivers. Kuntz also noted that the Winter Session will not be offered when winter breaks are shortened to a three week break.

Kuntz stated a formal proposal for the Winter Session will be put forward by the end of the academic year. Discussion followed with some questions being asked on the percentage of students who finished the classes and if the courses were less demanding than the typical course offered.

Discussion also followed regarding the lack of access on financial aid. The average cost was estimated at around $1100. Kuntz advised that the Provost’s Office is addressing the financial and access issues.

10. **Certificates** (K. Kuntz)

None.

11. **Old Business**

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

   1. **EP.15.42 Proposal from the College of Business and the Graduate College to Offer the MBA Online**

      McDonough gave a brief overview noting in appendix F and G the sponsors have addressed the questions from the committee. The sponsors took the floor to answer further questions from the committee. Discussion followed with the sponsor addressing the concern that the eMBA and iMBA curriculum were not identical. The sponsors assured the committee the iMBA is now identical in the revised proposal to mirror the eMBA curriculum.

      Discussion continued with the committee expressing concern on how student feedback on this day-to-day contact would be delivered to the designer. The sponsors answered by explaining they will use a discussion forum. Chair Miller stated the graduate degree and the
undergraduate degree differ greatly and highlighted the importance of the relationship that occurs between the graduate students and graduate faculty and was concerned about how this will work with the iMBA. The sponsors advised with a full-fledged faculty will work with the students and assured there will be interaction, just a different kind of interaction.

The sponsors advised as of now, all instructors, professors, lecturers will be coming from their faculty group and they do not anticipate any major resource problems. The sponsors noted only tenured faculty are staffed in the eMBA, and the iMBA will be staffed in the same way.

Discussion continued in regards to risks, survival of this program, what evidence is being used on which to base decisions. The sponsors advised there was a recent face-to-face survey done in Chicago which will provide results along with studies that have been done on other colleges that offer both face to face and online MBA programs that are very successful, and the sponsors will share these results with EPC. Brown concluded with noting the benefits outweigh the risks with this iMBA.

Chair Miller encouraged committee members to send comments to McDonough, so that he can provide the sponsors with feedback. Discussion on EP.15.42 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

2. EP.15.51 Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA) and the Graduate College to Revise the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
McDonough advised are no updates. EP.15.51 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

B. Subcommittee C: Steve Michael, Chair; Amanda Beacham, Michel Bellini, Juan Bernal, John Hart, Randy McCarthy, David Miller, Michelle Wander

1. EP.15.35 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Global Business Institutions and Society
Michael advised there are no updates. EP.15.35 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

2. EP.15.44 Proposal from the College of Media to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Advertising
Michael advised there are no updates. EP.15.44 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

3. EP.15.49 Proposal from the School of Labor and Employment Relations to Establish a New Course
Michael noted he has not received a response from the sponsor. EP.15.49 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

12. New Business

A. Subcommittee A: Eric Meyer, Chair; Brenda Clevenger, Bettina Francis, Keith Marshall, Dean Meyer, John Prussing, Jeremy Tyson

1. EP.15.58 Proposal to Revise the BSLAS in Molecular and Cellular Biology in the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Meyer gave a brief overview of EP.15.58, stating he thinks the proposal is straight forward and ready to be acted on.
Meyer moved for approval of EP.15.58. No further discussion was held and the motion to approve EP.15.58 passed unanimously by voice. It will appear on the April 6, 2015 Senate agenda.
2. EP.15.60 Proposal to Create a Journalism Concentration and Terminate the News Editorial and Broadcast Journalism Concentrations in the Department of Journalism for the Undergraduate Major in Agricultural Communications in the College of Media and Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
No discussion.

3. EP. 15.61 Proposal to Revise the Advertising Concentration Requirements for the Agricultural Communications Major in the College of Media and Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
No discussion.

4. EP.15.62 Proposal to Revise Courses Specified for the General Education Requirements for the Undergraduate Major in Agricultural Communications, College of Media and Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
No discussion.

5. EP.15.63 Proposal to Establish a New Master of Science in Strategic Brand Communication (M.S. in S.B.C.), to be jointly offered by the Department of Advertising in the College of Media, and the Department of Business Administration in the College of Business.
No discussion.

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

1. EP.15.65 Proposal to Establish a Graduate Concentration in “Cancer Nanotechnology” in the Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering
McDonough gave a brief overview of EP.15.65 noting the proposal is for a graduate concentration available within four programs: bioengineering, electrical and computer engineering, materials science and engineering, and mechanical science and engineering.

McDonough advised the proposal needs clarifications and has asked the sponsor if they wanted to craft this proposal as a concentration available within all four programs, a minor available within all four programs, or given the proposed housing of the program in bioengineering, a concentration in bioengineering available as a minor in the other three programs. He has also asked for clarification on core courses serving as electives or not.

Discussion followed with the committee showing concern for the pre-requisites, noting that prerequisites are quite extensive. Hart noted in the Graduate College letter of the proposal, it states that core courses can also be elective courses. Chair Miller encouraged the committee members to read the proposal and provide McDonough with feedback to share with the sponsors. EP.15.65 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

2. EP.15.68 Proposal to Revise the Master of Accounting (MAS) Program
No discussion.

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

1. EP.15.59 Proposal to Revise the Undergraduate Curriculum in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism (RST), college of Applied Health Sciences (AHS)
Michael gave a brief overview of EP.15.59 noting a revision has been provided. Michael advised the sponsor has cleaned up the few issues requested.
Michael moved for approval of EP.15.59. No further discussion was held and the motion to approve EP.15.59 passed unanimously by voice and will appear on the April 6, 2015 Senate agenda.

2. **EP.15.64 Proposal to Establish a Graduate Concentration in “Biomechanics” jointly in the Department of Bioengineering and Mechanical Science and Engineering, College of Engineering**  
   No discussion.

3. **EP.15.66 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Correct the Program of Study Listing for the PhD Program in Chemistry**  
   Michael gave a brief overview of EP.15.66, noting it has been revised to easier understand. Michael noted the revision references that each student in addition to completing formal coursework, must present a literature seminar. Michael noted the second issue that was addressed was the question with the chemistry department listing “0 min applied toward degree”. Michael advised the sponsor responded back with leaving it at 0.

   Discussion followed with the committee agreeing the proposal needs to be more explanatory. Michael noted that being a PhD program, there are advisors in Chemistry to help.

   Michael will provide feedback to sponsors; EP.15.66 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

4. **EP.15.67 Proposal to Transfer the PhD in Neuroscience from the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology to the Neuroscience Program**  
   Michael gave a brief overview of EP.15.67 noting the sponsor has provided a revision that consisted of editorial edits only. Michael moved for approval of EP.15.67.

   Discussion was held noting that Neuroscience is housed outside of the department of LAS, which is spread out through several colleges.

   The motion to approve EP.15.67 passed by voice with one abstention and will appear on the April 6, 2015 Senate agenda.

5. **EP.15.69 Proposal to Change the Name of Department from Department of Human and Community Development to Department of Human Development and Family Studies**  
   Michael gave a brief overview of EP.15.69 noting he has sent a few queries, but nothing major to the sponsors, he is waiting on a response.

   EP.15.69 will remain on the next EPC agenda.

13. **Other New Business**  
   None.

14. **Adjournment**  
   The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Rachel Park  
Senate Office Staff