Present: Bettina Francis, Chair; Jennifer Amos, Roy Campbell, Phillip Geil, Shawn Gordon, Randy McCarthy, Eric Meyer, Steven Michael, David Miller, John Prussing, Matt Rice, ex officio: John Hart, Kathy Martensen, Karen Carney, Brenda Clevenger, Keith Marshall

Absent: Juan Bernal, Pradeep Dhillon, Laurie Johnson, Titus Potter, Madison Scanlan ex officio: Michel Bellini

Guests: Amy Edwards, Assistant Provost and Director; Kristi Kuntz, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Policies; Allison McKinney, Director of Graduate Programs & Policy; Robert Rushing, General Education Board

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 1:10 pm on Monday, November 2, 2015, in room 232 English Building with Chair Bettina Francis presiding.

1. Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes
The minutes from the meeting of October 12, 2015 were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

3. Chair’s Remarks (B. Francis)
Chair Francis reported that the final report from the Task Force on Campus Approval Processes for Educational Programs is available and she will distribute it to the committee by means of email and have it posted to the EPC members’ web page. She noted the task force was jointly appointed by the Office of the Provost and the Senate Executive Committee and encouraged members to review the document for discussion at the next EPC meeting.

4. Office of the Provost Updates and Administrative Approvals EP.16.31 (K. Martensen)
Martensen gave a brief overview of EP.16.31, a report on Administrative approvals through November 2, 2015. EP.16.31 was approved by unanimous consent and will appear on the November 16, 2015 Senate agenda as a Report.

Martensen advised that UIC has suspended admission to the Medical Scholars Program, noting that commitments to all currently enrolled students will be honored. Discussion followed and the motion was made for the Committee to investigate the suspension of admission to the Medical Scholars Program. It was seconded and the motion for EPC to investigate the suspension passed by voice and will appear on the next EPC agenda.

5. Graduate College Updates (J. Hart)
No updates.

Kuntz and Rushing presented information on the history of General Education requirements. Kuntz stated that the last time the Senate has looked at the Gen Ed requirements was in 2002 when the Gen Ed board attempted to update EP.89.09 but it was tabled and has not been brought forward to the Senate since.
Kuntz added that many conversations have started and stopped since then in attempts to clean up GB.91.02 and EP.89.09, which still reflect 9 hours in distribution.

Discussion was held concerning that there is no document that describes actually what is currently practiced and the importance of bringing old Senate requirements in line with what is currently being practiced. It was suggested that EP.89.09 should be amended by stating common practice.

Discussion was also held on if EPC should be considering any Gen Ed requirements if others have not been implemented. It was suggested that EP.16.23 should not be considered until the previous changes of the Gen Ed requirements have been implemented. It was also stated that if EPC passes EP.16.23, it would be implemented into nothing, per there are new courses that are being implemented in line with the current practices instead of policy.

Gordon distributed a drafted document: Substitution for EP.89.09 reflecting current Gen Ed practices and encouraged members to send him comments after reviewing.

7. Old Business

A. **Subcommittee A**: Eric Meyer, Chair; Jennifer Amos, Randy McCarthy, Juan Bernal, Titus Potter, Brenda Cleveenger, Keith Marshall, Faculty Vacancy

   1. **EP.16.05 Proposal to Establish a Bachelor of Science in Innovation, Leadership, and Engineering Entrepreneurship (BS in ILEE) degree in the College of Engineering.**

      Meyer gave a brief overview of EP.16.05, to establish a Bachelor of Science in Innovation, Leadership, and Engineering Entrepreneurship (BS in ILEE) degree in the College of Engineering. The program is intended as a second (dual) degree for engineering students who seek the skills necessary to grow, build, design and lead innovative technology companies.

      Meyer advised the proposal sponsors continue to work on a revision; therefore, EP.16.05 will be deferred until the next EPC meeting.

B. **Subcommittee C**: Steve Michael, Chair; Pradeep Dhillon, David Miller, Michael Bellini, John Hart, Matt Rice, Faculty Vacancy

   1. **EP.16.23 Proposal to Change the General Education Cultural Studies Requirement so that Students have to take Both a US Minority Culture and a Non-Western Culture Course**

      Michael gave a brief description of EP.16.23, to seek the endorsement of the Senate to change the Cultural Studies General Education requirement so that students have to take both a non-Western Culture and a US minority culture course. The General Education Board (GEB) has already approved the proposed change.

      Michael noted this is a requirement that is not well implemented. Discussion followed concerning the merits, student impact, and feasibility of this cultural skill requirement. It was noted the Student Senate plan to start a discussion on how many students will be impacted by this requirement and plans to send a recommendation.

      Chair Francis shared an article on the UCLA Faculty approving a diversity requirement similar to the EP.16.23 proposal.
      

C. **Discussion on Concentrations within a Ph.D. Program** (Geil)

   Geil expressed concern and suggested that EPC possibly reinvestigate the appropriateness of the current definition of a concentration within a Ph.D. degree. Discussion followed with most members expressing that they do not feel there is a concern regarding the definition of a concentration with the Ph.D. degree. Geil stated he will draft a suitable motion of a concentration to be shared at the next EPC meeting.
8. New Business

A. Subcommittee A: Eric Meyer, Chair; Jennifer Amos, Randy McCarthy, Juan Bernal, Titus Potter, Brenda Clevenger, Keith Marshall, Robert Muncaster
   1. EP.16.27 Proposal to Establish an Undergraduate Major in Asian American Studies in the Department of Asian American Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
      No discussion was held.

   2. EP.16.30 Proposal to Rename the Graduate School of Library and Information Science to the School of Information Sciences
      No discussion was held.

B. Subcommittee B: Roy Campbell, Chair; Phil Geil, Laurie Johnson, John Prussing, Shawn Gordon, Madison Scanlan, Karen Carney, Kathy Martensen
   1. EP.16.25 Proposal to Revise the Curriculum for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design (BFA in GD), School of Art and Design, College of Fine and Applied Arts
      No discussion was held.

   2. EP.16.28 Proposal to Revise the Program of Study for the Bachelor of Music Education
      No discussion was held.

   3. EP.16.29 Proposal to Revise the Major in Agricultural Leadership and Sciences Education in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
      Campbell gave a brief overview of EP.16.29, to revise the undergraduate major in Agricultural Leadership and Sciences Education (ALSE). He noted there have been no substantial issues, the main issue raised was in the phrasing. Discussion followed concerning the Gen Ed requirements.
      Campbell moved for approval of EP.16.29 pending an editorial revision. No further discussion was held and the motion to approve EP.16.29 (pending an editorial revision) passed by voice and will appear on the November 16, 2015 Senate agenda.

C. Improving Disclosure of Evening Examinations (S. Gordon)
   Gordon gave a brief overview and expressed the idea for the schedule of courses to indicate which courses have evening exams. This change would make it easier for students to select courses that accommodate personal schedules and potentially reduce the number of conflict examinations needing to be scheduled. Gordon advised that he is working with Facility Management and Scheduling (FMS) on this and asked the committee to forward any feedback on this, in the case EPC feels this should be a formal policy within the Student Code.

9. Adjournment
   The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm