

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)  
November 15, 2011

Present: Professors CJ Koepp, Ted Lossowski, Sally Sievers, Susan Tabrizi; Student Representative Jeremiah Miller '14; and Provost Cindy Speaker (chair)

The meeting began at 9:29 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2011 meeting as corrected. Motion approved.

2. Feedback on Announcement of Celebrating Scholarship and Engagement Days

The Chair asked faculty representatives if they had received any feedback from their divisions to the announcement about the dates for Celebrating Scholarship and Engagement (CSE) days in the spring semester.

- A. Social Sciences – Feedback from the division had more to do with the elements of the Sustainable Community curriculum and not the dates themselves for CSE. In particular during a division meeting concerns were expressed regarding workload and compensation issues for the third-year seminar. The division would like EPC to address the service-learning component of those seminars. Questions of a definition for service learning as well as the availability of resources were raised. The second-year seminar as described should be courses that the division offers as part of what they normally do. Concerns were raised regarding first-year seminars, especially related to the situation of courses offered both semesters with unequal enrollments (undersubscribed in the fall and oversubscribed in the spring). The division is also discussing which of its courses should fulfill the quantitative reasoning requirement and if any fulfill the scientific literacy requirement. The Pass/Fail option that EPC addressed at its last meeting was discussed by the division as well. A final comment shared was that with the writing attentive nature of many of the courses faculty in division raised the issue of necessary training.
- B. Humanities – No reaction to the dates other than being glad to have them. There has been discussion in the division as to the courses that could fulfill the Critical and Analytical Reasoning requirement.
- C. Natural & Mathematical Sciences – Nothing to report on SC curriculum. Of concern to faculty is the India Initiative and its implications to the curriculum.
- D. Arts – Nothing to report.

The chair asked the student representative to be sure to share the CSE dates at an upcoming Rep Council meeting.

3. Process for revising institutional and academic program goals

The Committee discussed the purpose of the institutional goals and questioned why they were included in the Academic Information of the catalog and not located elsewhere. Questions raised about the academic program goals included who the audience for them is supposed to

be. Members also indicated that the goals should reflect what we do. Since some members of the Committee were members when EPC last discussed these goals, sharing the minutes from those meetings was suggested as potentially helpful in this process. The Chair volunteered to pull those and distribute them along with the draft of the Sustainable Community curriculum that includes the learning objectives for the requirements as well as some examples from other institutions.

#### 4. Next Meeting

As a result of a number of members of the committee not being able to meet next week, the Committee's next meeting will be on November 29, 2011. Members are asked to review the material the Chair will be sending around via e-mail as noted in #3 above.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Speaker, Provost and Dean of the College