

EPC Minutes
April 24, 2013

In attendance: Provost and Dean, Cindy Speaker; Professors Stiadle, Tabrizi, Lossowski, and Lohn; student member Jeremiah Miller

The meeting began at 10:35, continuing discussion about a college-wide attendance policy which would clarify privileges and expectations for “college-sanctioned” events such as athletics, Model United Nations, NCUR, and others.

The Dean had spoken to the faculty NCAA representative who had noted for EPC’s information that weather postponements in spring sports had been much more pronounced this year than last and that rescheduling weather-delayed games is always a short notice matter.

Members asked what policies other Division III schools in our conference enforced. Dean Speaker will provide that information before our next meeting.

Noting the importance of lab work in the sciences, the committee members speculated about the effect of morning labs on the schedule and concluded that moving science labs to the morning might clear more students to participate in college-sanctioned events in the afternoons. However, the time needed to set up labs militates against morning labs, and morning course conflicts might become unwieldy. The committee then considered the possibility of setting a minimum number of labs students must attend during the semester, leaving them some flexibility for college-sanctioned activities: no action was taken.

The discussion then turned to the athletic department’s policies. One member of the committee had not received any notification forms from students this semester; in the past, those forms have allowed instructors to anticipate and plan for student absences. A committee member asked what penalties athletes face if they miss a game because of academic commitments. Generally, coaches give playing preference to students who regularly attend practice and games. The committee members informally agreed that any attendance policy will not work unless both the sponsors of college-sanctioned events and instructors change some current practices.

The committee will continue to work on a statement that addresses attendance problems arising from college-sanctioned events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Lohn
Secretary, *pro tempore*