

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
September 1, 2015

Present: Professors Jeanne Goddard, Niamh O'Leary, Susan Wansor; Student Representative Chris Castro '16; and Provost Cindy Speaker

The meeting began at 12:15 p.m.

1. New members were welcomed to the Committee.
2. Approval of minutes – Minutes from the April 22, 2015 meeting were approved.
3. Future meeting time – Committee members agreed to move the weekly meeting time up to 12pm so that we can end at 1pm allowing faculty time to get their afternoon classes.
4. Minute-taking Assignments – Committee members signed up to take minutes throughout the semester as follows:

| | | |
|------|----|--------------------------|
| Sept | 1 | Cindy |
| | 8 | Jeanne |
| | 15 | Susan |
| | 22 | Chris |
| | 29 | Cindy |
| Oct | 6 | Jeanne |
| | 13 | No Meeting – Fall Break! |
| | 20 | Chris |
| | 27 | Jeanne |
| Nov | 3 | Cindy |
| | 10 | Susan |
| | 17 | Chris |
| | 24 | Susan |
| Dec | 1 | Jeanne |
| | 8 | Cindy |

5. Review of Charge and Elections – It was agreed that Niamh O'Leary would be the Committee Chair this year. Members reviewed the Committee's charge according to the Faculty Manual. Jeanne Goddard will be the Committee's faculty representative to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. Susan Wansor will be the Committee's budget representative to the Administration.
6. Old Business – The academic calendar proposed changes that the Committee finalized last year will be taken to the full faculty at the September meeting for vote. The Chair will send the draft to the faculty in advance so they have sufficient time to review it.
7. Discussion of agenda items for the semester – The Committee discussed the following issues:

- The need for the Faculty Manual to explicitly indicate that according to NYSED the BA requires 90 liberal arts and sciences credits while the BS requires 60. Provost Speaker agreed to draft the language for section III.A.5 of the manual for the Committee's consideration.
- The College needs a policy for dual degrees now that we offer a BS in addition to a BA. Provost Speaker distributed an example of such a policy. Additionally she mentioned how some institutions do transcript notations to indicate when a student has completed a certain major's requirement. The Committee discussed briefly the advising implications for a dual degree.
- A strategy for reviewing the assessment of majors was discussed. Faculty members will do those programs housed in their division, with the Provost reviewing the programs of the committee members. The assessment rubric will be updated.
- A discussion of the assessment of the general education curriculum took place as did the currently suspended third and fourth year seminars in that curriculum. Questions were raised as to how to proceed – revamp, revise, or start over? The Provost indicated that she would share MSCHÉ's new accreditation guidelines with the Committee as there is no longer a separate one focused on General Education. Consideration was given to the idea that perhaps this month's Provost's Forum should be on general education and what we can learn from the first and second year seminars.
- At the end of last year, the residency requirement of 60 Wells credit was raised as a potential issue making Wells less attractive for transfer students. Perhaps 45 or 30 hours could be considered.
- A concern was raised regarding the difficulty some transfer students have getting into courses given current caps. The Provost noted that the issue was raised at last week's Curriculum Committee meeting.

8. Homework for next meeting is to read the Dual Degree Policy handout distributed at today's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

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