

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
October 24, 2012

Present: Professors Linda Lohn, Ted Lossowski, Tom Stiadle, Susan Tabrizi; Student Representative Jeremiah Miller '14; and Provost Cindy Speaker (chair)

The meeting began at 10:35 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2012 meeting. Motion approved.

2. Preparation for Today's Open Meeting

Faculty members indicated that they hadn't heard much comment from their colleagues regarding the upcoming open meeting. The committee discussed some concerns that given last week's faculty meeting that there may be some people present at the meeting who would like the discussion to focus on the new curriculum. The committee agreed that we would provide a structure to the meeting by setting assigned time to each of the three areas of the draft document – values, responsibilities, and student learning goals – so that we hear feedback on each. Professor Lohn volunteered to take minutes at the open meeting so that we have a record of the feedback. The committee also discussed the national conversation about higher education, its value, and its purpose in today's society. Additionally, an observation was made that it seems in many organizations today there are clear statements about what the values of the organization are, what it strives for, etc. A final issue discussed was that of employment -- whether it was sufficiently addressed in the draft document, apprehension on some members of the faculty to directly discuss employment with students, etc. Members of the committee expressed no sense of dissonance in considering employment goals as part of a liberal arts education. As one member stated, there is nothing wrong with the "practical side to the life of the mind."

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

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