

Educational Policy Committee  
January 24, 2018

Present: Provost Cindy Speaker, Professors Desmond Cummins, Laura McClusky, and Katie Waugh (chair)

Meeting began at 12:20pm

I. Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2017, approved as presented.

II. Full-Time Position Requests:

- I. Reviewed Full-Time, Tenure-Track request for Film and Media Studies.
- II. Provost Speaker alerted the committee to a forthcoming position request arriving past the January 15 deadline in support of the writing components of the new Gen Ed curriculum
- III. Related Discussion: The committee discussed methods for evaluating, in the future, the broader interdisciplinary possibilities of requested positions. Committee considered changes to the position request paperwork and/or position ads, and will return to this issue in the future as ongoing changes to Gen Ed are implemented and ongoing Middle States Self-Study activities delineate the college's self-image. The committee defines this need as an extension of our role in long-term planning for the curriculum as a whole.

III. Middle States Self-Study: Committee discussed upcoming Middle States Self-Study procedures, in relation to the questions issued to EPC from CIPE. Faculty members new to the process will read assigned questions for next week, allowing for clarification and discussion during next week's meeting.

IIII. Last-Semester In-Residence Policy: Committee began to discuss the impact to the college and students of Last-Semester In-Residence policies. The committee identified the following issues:

- I. Students' finances: For some students, every dollar saved is crucial (and therefore the option for off-campus study can be helpful)
- II. A wholistic understanding of the Wells curriculum: In a true liberal arts context, no class should be considered "outside" of a student's discipline. Therefore, all courses taken for a degree are part of the core Wells experience.
- III. Discussion of existing campus ethos of what used to be called "sisterhood:" We market and advocate the kind of learning environment that comes from a close campus community, both among students and faculty.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katie Waugh

