

EPC Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2012

Committee members in attendance: Dr. Cindy Speaker, Provost and Dean of the College; Professors Lohn, Lossowski, Stiadle and Tabrizi; Jeremiah Miller, Student Representative.

The meeting began at 10:30am

Meeting minutes from September 19 were approved.

1. The chair reported that Curriculum Committee noted that under the new curriculum requirements students could potentially use a course for multiple requirements and that this raised a concern that a lack of breadth could result. The remedy proposed is that only 2 courses in the Sustainable Community curriculum can be used for major or minor requirements. This motion passed Curriculum Committee and will come to the faculty. The question before EPC was weather this change should be initiated by EPC. EPC agreed that it can come from Curriculum Committee.

2. Continued discussion of goals:

- a. A suggestion was made that we should start with our values and the responsibilities that come from the values. Perhaps we could use these values as an identity statement.
- b. Question: Can we think about this as a developmental template for the time that students spend at Wells?
- c. Discussion of homework regarding what is in the current catalog compared with what is in the new lists of concepts generated by EPC last semester. Some members did not see anything in the lists that did not fit within the existing structure. Others thought that even though ideas could be fit into the existing structure emphasis needs to be reorganized and represented to highlight values and goals.
- d. One quality that may not be there completely is the extent to which students are independent learners and thinkers. In addition there was a suggestion that we not forget foundational concepts. Actual knowledge matters to support higher level conceptualizations
- e. Question about what the purpose of the open meeting should be: to solicit comments on ideas that we present or a more fact finding exercise? Motion was presented to postpone the open meeting with the faculty until October 24. Consensus decision was reached.
- f. Ending comments: What is in the current catalog does not provide a sense of identity/vision/qualities for the College. Using the term values instead of goals may aid in clarifying the purpose of the catalog statements and the project of delineating their content.
- g. Discussion of these topics will continue next week.

The meeting concluded at 11:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Tabrizi