

Educational Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes 10/16/13

Committee Members in Attendance: Dr. Cindy Speaker, Provost and Dean of the College; Professor Linda Lohn, committee chair; Professors Lauren O'Neil, Ted Lossowski and Susan Tabrizi.

Minutes from the 10/9/13 meeting were approved.

Agenda

1. Report from the academic affairs committee
2. Discussion of edits in the learning goals document
3. Discussion of course schedule changes

Discussion

1. Prof. Tabrizi reported that the academic affairs committee meeting was very upbeat and energizing. The President of the college indicated that the ongoing budget modeling would be presented to the college in an effort to increase transparency. The President also indicated that he was surprised at the number of proposals that had come from the faculty and that the work had exceeded his expectations. He apologized for not being clearer in his definition of "initiative" but was supportive of the changes that were being proposed by the faculty.
2. Prof. Lohn encouraged the committee to re-write the opening statement of the student learning goals document rather than to "wordsmith" the current draft. She also encouraged the committee to tie the opening statement to the mission statement. The current statement (approved by the committee) is as follows:

Wells College encourages, teaches, supports, and challenges students as they learn to think critically, reason wisely, act humanely, and cultivate meaningful lives. Students develop a broad skill set which prepares them for careers and further study in an interconnected and ever-changing world.

3. The discussion of the course schedule revision lead into a discussion of college infrastructure and the needs for more effective classroom spaces. The committee also discussed curricular issues within the current schedule. The committee also discussed strategies for presentation of any new course schedule to the full faculty.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren O'Neil
Secretary Pro Tempore