

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)

November 12, 2014

Present: Professors Niamh O'Leary, Linda Lohn (Chair); Student Representative Leslie Green' 17, and Provost Cindy Speaker. Absent: Professor Susan Wansor

The meeting began at 3:00 pm.

1. Corrections to last week's minutes
 - Revise 3rd bullet, ii, to illustrate the positive nature that we see the advising process in solving the issue of student preparedness. Under the new advising system, students are with advisors who are experienced at evaluating students' progress and performance in their specific disciplines.

2. There still has been no word from Advisory Committee regarding the Chemistry position.

3. CRIM Visiting Assistant Professor Position Request from Social Sciences
 - The issue was raised about the ethics of reviewing one position request in isolation. Since there are no other requests being reviewed the playing field does not seem even.
 - Divisions should feel free to put in requests at any time.
 - We need a set of standards for evaluating position requests.
 - The question was also raised of whether or not it is fair to be adding positions for potential majors and programs, when we have current departments that are understaffed.
 - The request included the prospect of this faculty member to teach courses in social work, a program we do not even have now.
 - There is a concern about why the CRIM major was sent to the state if there were questions about how it would be staffed. We do not want to run into the same problems that we had with the Business major proposal.
 - After reviewing the requirements for the proposed CRIM major, we find that there are only 3 course requirements with the CRIM designation. These do not include internship courses or the senior experience course.
 - We are sympathetic towards this request and are glad that the minor is well enrolled. Given that currently the major is pending approval from the state, it seems premature to approve this request. Staffing for CRIM courses has been going smoothly, and adjuncts will continue to be hired as needed. After the

major is approved by the state, the Social Sciences division can re-submit this position request if they still feel it is needed.

4. Draft Faculty Guidelines for SC Seminars

- The committee hopes for a set of guidelines that will show the progression from the SC 101 seminar all the way up through the junior year seminar. Current SC 101 goals needs revision.
- Draft Crafting Meaningful Lives guidelines were distributed to the committee.
- These guidelines are not meant to be prescriptive, but instead are ideas of pedagogical techniques CML faculty can incorporate into their seminars.
- Questions arose around what it means that a course is a seminar, and how much discussion can and should be expected in first year seminar courses versus third year seminars.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Green