

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
November 15, 2017

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

1. Minutes from 11.8.17 – approved as presented.
2. Academic Calendar – The Chair noted the difficulty in finding a common time for committee members to meet with the members of ASAA to discuss ideas regarding the academic calendar. A doodle poll will be sent later today to facilitate finding a common time.
3. Independent Studies – The committee returned to its previous work on independent studies and delineating between the various types of them. Consensus was achieved that there seems to be three types that we see on campus: (1) an off-cycle already approved course (“proxy”); (2) a true independent study (“proper”); and (3) an added component to a concurrent course providing further study (“enhanced”). The Chair will talk with the Registrar as to whether it’s possible to revise the form in such a way to clarify students’ reasons for the independent study. There was a brief discussion on whether there should be some sort of cap on the number of credits students can earn for true independent study work.
4. Assessment – Given the committee’s work last year, there was little mentoring of faculty regarding assessment. Faculty are asking for direct feedback on their assessment reports and plans. Members should review the current guidelines for both available on the Globe and think of what additional information is needed and ways we may provide faculty reminders about the work.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

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