

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)

March 22, 2018

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m.

1. Minutes from 3.8.18
Minutes were approved as presented.
2. Position Request Discussion
The Committee returned to discussing the position request received for a visiting position in Math. Term length was the primary concern. The Chair will forward the Committee's recommendation to the Advisory Committee.
3. General Education Policy Discussion
Before discussing issues related to a policy for how to revise the general education curriculum, concerns were discussed regarding the "no prerequisite" restriction for courses to be in the general education offerings except for those related to math and languages. Examples were provided of certain courses that would meet the learning objectives for a category but that had a prerequisite that would fulfill another category of the curriculum. The Committee discussed two different burden of proof models. Faculty members will talk informally with their colleagues about the prerequisite issue. As EPC is responsible for certain curricular proposals and Curriculum Committee for implementing those once approved by the faculty as well as suggesting direction itself for the curriculum, they need to work collaboratively. The Chair will draft language capturing the Committee's discussion for review. The descriptions of EPC and Curriculum Committee that are in the Faculty Manual would need to be modified and taken to the full faculty for vote.
4. Assessment Discussion
The Committee discussed the idea of surveying the faculty as to their needs regarding assessment. There is a lot of variability in the reports that are submitted. The faculty need consistent communication about assessment and need sessions on how to do assessment. The Committee needs feedback from faculty and should not worry about getting negative feedback. We want to be able to support faculty in their assessment work.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

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