

Educational Policy Committee

December 6, 2017

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

Meeting began at 4:00 pm.

- I. Discussed minutes from changes to minutes from Nov. 28. Approved with corrections
 - A. Clarification of wording and committee's position on Independent Study inclusion in major requirements.
 - B. Chair reminded committee members to submit final drafts of minutes to Laurie Turo for posting on Globe.

- II. Discussion of need for developing policy to allow for changes to the General Education Curriculum:
 - A. Review of concerns raised during Social Sciences Division Meeting
 1. Classes listed in "Skills for Lifelong Learning" – confusion over whether this is a fixed list.
 2. Concern over requests to change, augment, or develop new courses for specific Gen Ed categories.
 3. How to understand pre-requisites: Is it appropriate to include some courses that require pre-requisites, but truly and effectively respond to category objectives?
 4. What percentage of a course's content must attend to a Gen Ed category in order to gain approval within that category?
 - B. Committee discussed areas in which pre-req policies become less well-defined within Gen Ed curriculum: Math placement and fluency in a language

- III. Follow-up on previous policy-compliance discussions
 - A. Laura followed up with the Registrar to learn more about the incidence of on-time grade submission non-compliance among faculty.
 - B. Committee discussed possible targeted solutions for encouraging compliance; with more specific information, we may be able to help determine causes (and subsequent solutions) for non-compliance.

- IV. New Agenda Item Identified: Review of minimum class size policies (this may intersect with Faculty Workload conversations to be held in future).

- V. Committee Chair will issue a simple end-of-semester assessment reminder, and will follow up with a beginning-of-semester reminder to encourage mindful syllabus design. Faculty will be encouraged to refer to their program's assessment priorities for this year.

Adjourned, 4:58 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Waugh