

## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY MINUTES

February 23, 2011

Wednesday, 11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307

Present: Holly Cordova (NSTF Rep), Alma Natalia De Castro (SUA), Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex officio*), Lourdes Martínez-Echazábal (Provost Rep.), Cormac Flanagan, Melissa Gwyn, Eric Porter, John Tamkun (Chair), Susanna Wrangell (Staff), Peter Young, Eileen Zurbriggen.

Absent: Justin Riordan (SUA), Michael McCawley (Associate Director of Admissions).

Guests: Mark Cioc (Interim VPDUE), Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Elaine Kihara (Academic Preceptor Designee), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer), Provost Ravi Rajan from College 8.

### I. Announcements and updates.

Chair Tamkun updated committee members on the Senate Executive (SEC) committee meeting held on Tuesday. SEC discussed budget cutting and faculty salaries as well as issues associated with faculty retention. He presented his curriculum planning maps for majors which was widely accepted by members. SEC members felt strongly that critical academic functions should be put under an academic purview such as the VPDUE's office, and will be working on a report to present to CP/EVC Galloway. Committee members were updated on the Economics email to students on enrollment restrictions to ECON 100A, B, and 113, effective fall, 2011. Chair Tamkun met with the Economics Chair who agreed to send out a retraction statement, which went out this morning. CEP's response to the Economics program statement requests will be sent around to members for comments this week.

***Action Item: CEP members should read over the Economics response and comment on.***

Minutes to approve this week via email: January 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2011 by Monday, February 28.

Petitions this week:

- Requests for Graduate Student Instructors (GSI) – 17.
- Request for Grade Options from letter grade to P/NP – 1.
- GE substitutions 10 – (9 W's).
- Requests for Late drop of a class – 3 approved based on medical conditions.

Transfer Articulation Course Reviews this week: none.

### II. ITC Consultation with Ravi Rajan for College 8 Submittal.

Provost Rajan consulted with CEP members briefly on his request for an additional general education designation to be placed on the College 8 Core Interdisciplinary Topical Cluster (ITC) Sequence. Provost Rajan referenced a handout on the courses and their current designations and course credits. CEP members appreciated the enormous amount of time and effort devoted to the creation of the cluster sequence. This ITC provides an outstanding educational opportunity for students, and we hope that it can serve as a model for other ITCs. However, given the past committee's strong arguments against this practice, the committee did not feel that it would be appropriate to approve the request. After the consultation members held a brief discussion and offered these suggestions. The one that seems most workable would be to remove the TA designation from the core courses (they would retain the C1/C2 designation) and to add a PE-E for the entire sequence (to be awarded at the completion of the sequence). This would result in 4GEs with 18 credits: MF, SI, C1/C2, and PE-E. Under this scenario CEP suggests that the courses be taken in sequence, all in the same year, for ease of coding in AIS; and

would also contribute to a more communal learning experience for students. Or if this proposal is unacceptable, would College 8 consider making the sequence a requirement for college Honors, as an incentive to students to take the ITC? Alternatively, would it be possible to work with one or more departments (e.g., Environmental Studies) to allow the full sequence to count as credit towards a relevant major?

***Action Item: CEP will send a response to Ravi with these suggested changes to continue with the cluster's success. Committee members voted in favor 5 to 1.***

### **III. Chemistry Biochemistry External Review Closure Meeting Debrief**

The CEP designated member reported back to the committee on the closure meeting points of discussion. Undergraduate educational issues did not get a lot of attention but CEP will be monitoring the outcome of the Chem 1A, 1B, and 1C sequence, which will impact undergraduate education with future retirements that effect efficiency in the curriculum. The teaching fellow program for instructors allows half-time for research and teaching but the department felt this was not very successful in relieving teaching workload. The re-sequencing of the chemistry series may not be a success for transfer students. There is a lower failure rate for students, but the topic content changed, courses do not articulate at all, students can't transfer Chemistry credit from a semester based college.

### **IV. CEP's Policies on Selective Admission to a Major and Disqualification to Major.**

The discussion will continue next week but here are some points the members would like to be incorporated into the revised guidelines:

Disqualification policy guidelines for department majors:

- Students should not be disqualified after a single failure and should be allow to take the course again;
- CEP would require department's to submit a proposal supported by their Dean, and then enforce it;
- Clarify when a W grade would disqualify a student to a major;
- Have an appeal process that is uniform, across all departments;
- Students must complete gateway courses early in their career, and courses should reflect success in the major for the pathway to degree, ideally to have in place by 2012;
- Make the pathway more linear to their majors.

### **V. Evaluation of Request Forms to Alter Enrollment Conditions (i.e. Econ Major).**

Economics' request for a course revision to is majors is considered minor and reviewed by the sub committee members. Sub committee members must be aware of disqualification or if stakeholders have been consulted. This was not done and impacts courses for other departments. This form does not have a field for an explanation for the change request, and CEP has continuously requested more information when reviewing these forms. Associate Registrar Margie Claxton will develop the changes to the form for next year. CEP will inform departments to generate stakeholder maps when doing curriculum planning for pre requisite courses.

So attests,

John Tamkun, Chair  
Committee on Educational Policy