

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY MINUTES

May 10, 2006

12:15-1:45, KERR HALL RM 307

Present: Heather Bullock, Tim Fitzmaurice (Non-senate teaching faculty rep), Jorge Hankamer, Richard Hughey (Chair), Pamela Hunt-Carter (Registrar, ex-officio), Anatole Leikin, Roxanne Monnet (ASO staff), John Tamkun.

Guests: Margie Claxton (Academic Editor), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Barbara Love, Michael McCawley (Associate Director, Admissions).

Absent: Floyd Amuchie (SUA representative), Pedro Castillo (Provost Rep), Tracy Larrabee.

I. Announcements

The Health Center Director has requested to meet with a member of CEP to discuss a new approach to absence slips. Professor John Tamkun volunteered.

The Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) is reconsidering the School of Engineering (SOE) request to disestablish the Dual Degree Engineering program. CEP will await that feedback before responding to SOE.

A Chair Pro Tem is needed for the May 24 meeting.

Chair Hughey gave a report from the recent UCEP meeting. UCEP received an update on the vacant (or soon to be) executive level positions at systemwide. A meeting will occur at UCI on May 29 regarding CalTeach (the Science and Math Initiative). With the loss of a UCOP administrator responsible for the program, Acting Provost Hume would like to find program leadership among the campus administrators, and reduce systemwide oversight of the program.. . The Taskforce on Undergraduate Education is moving forward. Regularization of Summer Session continues to be discussed at systemwide and campus levels. UCEP received an update on SR 477 which intends to streamline transfer process regulations (this regulation indicates that once 4 UC campuses have articulated the same course, it becomes by default a course for transfer credit toward all like degrees in the UC system). The working group is reviewing 2-3 disciplines per year, and has made excellent 3-page sheets on transfer preparation for psychology and the biological sciences across the campuses. BOARS is responsible for the implementation of SR478, SIGETC. UCEP and CCGA are writing a joint response to the APC on issues surrounding the appointment of graduate students as primary instructors . Included in the recommendations is the plan to reduce graduate student teaching titles to two (teaching assistant and teaching fellow). The plan includes a dual graduate student/lecturer option for those who already have faculty experience. Increased faculty oversight is included in the plan. Most UC campuses do require CEP (or equivalent committee) approval for graduate student teaching of lower-division courses, as UCSC essentially does. UCAF has developed a draft document on Student Freedom of Scholarly Inquiry. The UC Committee on Mental Health was recently formed(VPDUE Ladusaw will be a member) to examine the needs of the growing number of students entering the UC with mental health disabilities.

II. Minutes. The May 3 minutes were approved as amended.

III. Program Statement Review

Biology: Further review on the Biology series for writing-intensive designation beyond summer 2006 is carried forward until materials arrive from the department.

Theater Arts: The department withdrew their request to modify the 60 series. There are no further actions for the full Committee to consider for this department's program statement or degree requirements for the 2006-07 catalog. The department will need to resubmit their request if they want this topic considered for 2007-08. In the meantime, it is hoped that the department will reach consensus on degree requirements for their majors.

IV. Astronomy Quantitative Courses

The Committee considered a letter from the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics in which they described their process of review for their Q designated courses. The Committee greatly appreciated the work of the faculty in examining their Q curriculum and establishing departmental requirements for Q courses, addressing areas of quantitative reasoning, assessment (at least 25% of final examination must be quantitative), and oversight (department chair). In light of their thorough process, CEP approves the Q designation on the following courses: Astro 2, 3, 5, 12, 16, and 18, in addition to those approved earlier this year.

V. W on T courses.

Divisional Regulations do not prohibit prerequisites on topical courses. Addition of the writing-intensive GE designation to a topical course, in effect, adds the prerequisite of C2 since that is the prerequisite to the W. However, the C2 prerequisite does not prohibit completion of the course by non-majors. CEP approves the W for appropriate topical courses.

VI. Talking points for the meeting with Chancellor Denton

Chancellor Denice Denton will visit CEP's May 31 meeting. The Committee discussed possible talking points for that meeting. Chair Hughey will prepare a draft list of talking points for consideration at the next meeting.

VII. Proposed BS programs – preliminary feedback

Chair Hughey recapped for the Committee the process and flow for proposals for new undergraduate degree programs. These proposals move from the department to the divisional dean to the VPAA to relevant Senate committees, who provide responses to the VPAA. The CP/EVC makes the final decision. The two proposals referred to below have not been officially submitted to the Senate. Today's discussion is intended to educate the Committee on the proposals as they currently stand in order that the process may move more quickly once the official documents reach the Senate, assuming that it is during the current academic year.

Game design BS proposal: CEP found the proposal to be attractive and cutting edge. Since some existing courses will be reshaped for this degree program, the resource needs are not high. One new faculty hire has been made in this area, and two more are planned. A funding agreement is being

developed for this proposal. Admissions staff indicated that they are already receiving a high number of student inquiries. Chair Hughey will draft a letter for further discussion at next week's meeting. No letter will be sent until the proposal is officially submitted and vet through CEP.

Bioengineering BS proposal: Bioengineering BS proposal: Chair Hughey recused himself from the discussion. Committee member Jorge Hankamer served as chair pro tem for this discussion. The Committee indicated that the curricular aspects of the proposal look strong. Resource issues seem to be what is causing the delay for development of this degree program. Due to the potential impacts on their budget, the PSci Division has not supported the inclusion of MCD Biology as a departmental partner. The Department of MCD Biology is supportive but added that their budget forced them to give priority to their majors for some courses listed as required in the proposal. A similar situation may exist for chemistry. CEP expressed concern that the lack of departmental commitments could become an issue in the future. It was noted that all other UCs have programs in this area (even UC Merced has a conceptual program for future implementation). Available lab space was one concern. The proposal notes that the existence of this program will increase diversity in engineering at UCSC. The question was raised as to how, specifically, this will increase diversity. What specific plans are there for achieving this goal? It was noted that other UC health science programs attract a diverse audience. The student advising for this program would be given through the engineering division. The Committee would like to know who is doing campus curriculum oversight to consider the impact of proposals such as this in other divisions.

VIII. ELWR enforcement at the colleges

Carried forward.

IX. 19/20 unit limit.

Carried forward.

X. Academic Integrity inquiry. The committee considered the case of academic sanctions when a student committing an act of academic dishonesty early in the quarter drops the course. CEP decided that such situations should be handled on a case-by-case basis, where the Provost and the instructor should have some conversation about the combination of academic and disciplinary sanctions. Adding a grade for a dropped course is somewhere in the gray area between academic and disciplinary actions. If the two parties agree that this is an appropriate action, then reinstatement of the course on the student's record must be put forward through CEP for confirmation and instruction to the Registrar's Office. If the parties disagree, then the two different views should be provided to CEP. Alternatively, if the parties agree that just a disciplinary sanction is appropriate (perhaps at a higher level than usual), that too is appropriate.

As relates to students who withdraw from a course, the Committee was reminded that an earlier CEP agreed that since a withdraw (W) is a type of grade, the academic integrity policy permits an instructor to change the grade as part of the academic sanctions.

Attest,

Richard Hughey, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy