

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 7, 2005
12:30-2, KERR HALL RM 307**

Present: Heather Bullock, Richard Hughey (Chair), Tracy Larrabee, Anatole Leikin, Roxanne Monnet (ASO staff), Jaye Padgett, Sarah-Hope Parmeter (Non-senate teaching faculty rep), John Tamkun.

Guests: Cher Bergeon (Preceptor Rep), Vilashini Cooppan (Senate Scholar), Ray Gibbs (CPB member), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Michael McCawley (Associate Director, Admissions), Sharon Van Kirk (Coordinator for Academic Advising, DUE Office), Liam Welcher (SUA rep for CAFA).

Absent: Floyd Amuchie (SUA representative), Pedro Castillo (Provosts Rep), Pamela Hunt-Carter (Registrar, ex-officio).

I. Announcements and updates.

UCOP is considering next actions for UC in support of CalTeach/Science and Math Initiative.

UC faculty will soon be required to have ethics training.

UC has successfully re-bid for continued oversight of LANL.

The Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (system-wide version of CAFA) is considering a proposal to remove the Advanced Placement (AP) bump to GPA.

The committee chairs for CPB, GC, and CEP will meet regarding the roles of each group in future oversight of University Extension.

The Senate has established a special service award for staff. The first awards will be given to retired staff members Esperanza Nee (Director of Financial Aid) and Cathy Fong (Academic Senate Office, committee advisor to CEP). The Committee will consider a venue for Cathy Fong to receive her award.

The proposal to change the rules of order is expected to be on a senate meeting agenda during winter quarter 2006.

A recent letter from UCAAD will be provided to the Committee for comment via email.

At the most recent UCEP meeting, the Committee considered how to better involve UC in civic engagement. Ideas include a Center for Community Learning which can consider service learning and engaged scholarship with the local community.

UCEP's work on SR477 continues (topic: when 4 UC campuses articulate a course for a degree requirement, the course is by default allowable to all like UC degrees).

The subcommittee to consider a revised GE proposal recently met. In reviewing the 1998-99 proposal, the subcommittee has 3 tasks: re-articulation of a system of continuous oversight; identification of possible incentives for departments to offer the "G" designation to be described in the proposal; and elimination of controversial portions of the former proposal such as relates to the writing-intensive general education designation.

The Graduate Council will look at CEP's newly revised final examination/closed week text early in January to consider whether they want to take similar action on for graduate course final examinations.

II. Minutes. The November 30 minutes were accepted as amended.

III. Start Times. Carried forward to next meeting.

IV. Retention Discussion.

The Committee considered the contributing factor information provided by VP/DUE Bill Ladusaw. He described for the committee this year's pilot third-quarter advising effort which intends to have all students proposing majors by the time they have completed 45 units.

The Committee discussed the ways in which UCSC differs from other campuses with better retention statistics including UCSC's lack of an honor's program, the amount of bureaucracy for UCSC students, and the possibility that UCSC still serves as a "safety school." There is continuing concern that students arrive at UCSC expecting small classes but do not experience many, if any, until reaching their upper-division coursework.

The Office of Institutional Research will be looking at what happens to the students that UCSC does not retain. Do they go to other universities and ultimately complete 4 year degrees, for example. That office will also conduct a major migration study making use of the information to be collected with the third quarter advising effort, as a way to have considerably more current information regarding areas of interest for the students.

Assuming there is to be only one winter senate meeting, the Committee and the Office of Undergraduate Education will ask the Senate Chair to consider using the other date for a Forum on Retention. VP/DUE Ladusaw offered to write to the Senate Chair with this request.

The Committee extended its appreciation to Ladusaw for his work in collecting data and developing reports and presentations for CEP.

The Committee was asked to consider the list of ideas provided by Ladusaw over the break and to make additions for conversations in January. In winter quarter the committee will consider ideas for redressing the retention issues at UCSC. One idea of note is the need to get the faculty

talking with small groups of students early in their academic careers. The Committee hopes to hear from both CAFA and CPB about ideas that they may have for improving the situation. The Committee plans to work out what they can do independently, in conjunction with other senate committees, and other options involving the broader campus community. One idea mentioned that was not in the list provided by Ladusaw is the adoption of minimum and maximum units toward successful graduation, as one means of reducing the bureaucracy that may be special to UCSC versus the other UCs.

V. Committee response to draft University Extension Task Force Report.

The Committee vested with Chair Hughey the authority to work with the chairs of GC and CPB on this topic toward a unified response to the report.

VI. W topics. Carried forward to the next meeting.

VII. Q topics.

The Committee endorsed the revised text of a letter to go to the Astronomy Department related to the balance of their Q designation courses to be re-approved.

The other Q related topics were carried forward to a future meeting.

VIII. Degree changes.

Art Department Portfolio Review. The Committee considered the request for informal feedback to the Art Department regarding re-institution of a portfolio review for admission to their major program. Chair Hughey will prepare a response to the department for consideration as they consider whether or not to submit the request for this change through their divisional dean. The Committee was reminded of the policy on selective admissions.

Computer Sciences BA change. The Committee approved the changes proposed for this degree track.

Literature Concentrations. The Committee received from the Humanities Division and approved two additional concentrations to the literature major titled *Film in Literature* and *Critical Theory*.

IX. Guidelines for the approval of concentrations and intensive majors. Carried forward to a future meeting.

X. Publication of Individual Majors in the catalog or other official campus publications. Carried forward to a future meeting.

Additional agenda item: special case petition consideration.

A student has petitioned for a change of grade option from P/NP to a letter grade on the basis that grades are needed to get into law school. The Committee denied the request, indicating that

letters of support for the student's law school application should far outweigh one P grade on the student's transcript.

A pre-millennial student took the minimum number of grades needed for the GPA requirement and received a D grade in one of the courses. The result was a GPS too low to graduate. The student petitioned to CEP to change the grade option of one select course from a P to a letter grade, in order to reach the 2.0 minimum GPA for graduation. Although the Committee denied this specific request, they do support changing the D to an NP, should the student want that action to occur. The result would be that the current D when changed to NP would not affect the GPA but the student will have a reduced number of units toward graduation which may result in the need to take an additional course in order to graduate. Since the number of pre-millennial students is very low at this time, the Committee is not very concerned about the precedence that this action will cause.

Additional agenda item: Policy on change of grade option to meet the requirement that no more than 25 percent of a student's coursework may be taken for with the P/NP option.

The Committee supports the practice that for these cases petitioners will be asked to go back to the most recent eligible quarter and request that a change from P/NP to letter grade for all courses in that term. Instructor support for the change must be provided with these petitions. It is recognized that students may need to go further back than their most recent quarter if there is a lack of eligible courses for letter grades in the most recent quarter.

The Committee was informed that students may view their percentage of letter grade versus P/NP in AIS.

Attest:

Richard Hughey, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy