

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

MINUTES

January 10, 2007

12:30-2 p.m., Kerr Hall RM 307

Present: Heather Bullock, Russ Flegal, David Helmbold, Pamela Hunt-Carter (Registrar, ex-officio), Anatole Leikin, Roxanne Monnet (ASO staff), Loisa Nygaard, Jaye Padgett (Chair), Sarah-Hope Parmeter (NSTF rep).

Absent: Joel Ferguson (Provost Rep), Flori Lima (SUA rep).

Guests at open portion of the meeting: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), and Stacey Sketo Rosener (academic preceptor).

Executive Session (12:30-1:15 p.m.)

The members unanimously voted to extend invitations to the following people to regularly attend the full session portions of CEP: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer), Michael McCawley (Associate Director for Admissions), and Stacey Sketo-Rosener (Academic Preceptor representative).

Members volunteered for the following committee assignments:

CEP Rep to the newly forming Pandemic Planning Committee: Dave Helmbold (handout provided)

Academic Integrity: Russ Flegal

Retention Task Force: Heather Bullock

Honors: Campuswide designation as well as for honors in departments/colleges: Anatole Leikin

CEP Rep to Health Services regarding student sick notes: Loisa Nygaard (handout provided)

CEP Rep to the AIS Steering Committee for winter 2007: Pamela Hunt-Carter

The members briefly discussed how to proceed with the topic of general education reform. One idea is for each member to meet with one department in each division, once CEP has a more detailed conception of possible plans. During the current quarter the Committee plans to develop the presentation regarding things to think about on this topic. They want to invite feedback regarding perceived problems, benefits to be retained, and imperfections to be solved as related to UCSC's current general education requirements. The following departments were suggested: Computer Sciences, Literature, MCD Biology, Music, and Psychology. The Committee wishes to involve provosts, deans, advising staff, and faculty for input toward a plan. The Committee commented on the current disconnect of faculty from general education at UCSC as seeming widespread. CEP plans soon to send a letter broadly referring people the November 17 slide show regarding general education reform that is on CEP's public web site.

The Committee considered handouts regarding the writing requirement for future discussion.

Open Session (1:15-2 p.m.)

I. Announcements.

Chair Padgett reviewed the outcomes of the Executive Session with the CEP representatives and guests.

The members were reminded to provide their feedback related to writing requirements at the other campuses.

The group was informed that the Committee's letters regarding graduate student instructors and the Draft Strategic Academic Plan were sent since the last CEP meeting, copies of which are in the correspondence folder of the password protected site.

The letter and documents regarding the 5 Year Prospective Programs will be placed in the miscellaneous folder on the Committee's password protected site for the Committee's information.

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) met yesterday. Rory Humm will visit from the Office of the President on February 8. Chair Padgett is one of a number of Senate committee chairs who has been asked to meet with him. VPDUE Ladusaw indicated that these campus visits are part of UC's work toward development of a systemwide academic plan, as encouraged by the Regents. [Title?] Humm will meet with core administration, deans, vice provosts and well as Senate committee chairs.

The Committee was made aware of the Senate Forum to happen on January 19 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Porter Fireside Lounge to discuss the process of appointing chancellors. They are also informed of the upcoming Dialog on Activism scheduled for January 25 from 12:30-5 p.m. It was announced that the Career Fair has been postponed due to concern over the possibility of an activist presence expected to be stronger than what occurred during the Regents' visit in the fall.

The external review closure meeting for Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology recently occurred. The department reiterated its concern about capacity and plans to pursue Bachelor of Arts paths with fewer courses to accommodate some of the lesser prepared students as well as to improve retention. The department may propose to limit or otherwise govern entrance into the major. It is not clear that the division is of the same mind as the department regarding the matter of capacity.

The Committee gave its support for the Bioengineering B.S. proposal based on the response received from Professor Richard Hughey to CEP's questions and concerns for students who may enter the program without the background as described in the proposal.

II. Minutes. The November 29 draft minutes were accepted.

III. Discussion Regarding Draft Charges for upcoming External Reviews.

Philosophy: CEP discussed the draft charge for the Philosophy Department's upcoming external review. According to the subcommittee who led the discussion, changes since the last review are so great that the those materials are not very useful to the current discussion. Retention of assistant professors was described as being a huge problem, with four recent losses. Markedly declining diversity in faculty and graduate students was notes. Concern was expressed regarding the climate for students and faculty. TA training and assessment of performance is recommend as ways to benefit the undergraduate teaching in light of the new graduate program. It was noted that there was no mention of advising in the documentation. The Committee wonders whether the department has been able to maintain the quality of the undergraduate program in light of faculty changes and the addition of the graduate program. The group noted mention in the documents of a disconnect between the department's proposed future research orientation and their undergraduate program. CEP wants to encourage the department to affect positive changes to their undergraduate program that intersect with professorial research directions. A draft letter will be prepared for discussion at the January 24 meeting.

Writing Program: It was noted that the Writing Program has been in flux due resource cuts at a time of increased student. Concern was expressed that ELWR instruction is given to some extent by lecturers who do not have continuing status. The draft charge addresses the concerns raised by last's CEP. One Security of Employment Lecturer search is currently underway. The group commented on the reduction in participation in tutoring services since they became available at a cost to the student and wondered about the relationship between this change and the increased number of students who are moving into their 3rd quarter without having met the ELWR requirement. A draft letter will be prepared for discussion at the January 24 meeting. The Committee is interested in meeting with the external review committee regarding its concerns related to support for ELWR and the C1/C2 requirements.

IV. Retention taskforce charge.

Hand out provided. Draft task force. Email to follow. Discussion in two weeks.

Attest,

Jaye Padgett, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy