

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES
January 31, 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), Jaye Padgett (Chair).

Absent: Joel Ferguson (Provost rep), Flori Lima (SUA rep), Loisa Nygaard, Sarah-Hope Parmeter (NSTF rep).

Guests: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Michael McCawley (Associate Director, Admissions), Stacey Sketo-Rosener (Academic Preceptor).

I. Announcements

CEP Chair Jaye Padgett met last week with Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA). He apprised CEP of his discussion at that meeting. CAFA is frustrated by UCSC's slow response to the May 2006 Resolution on Retention and is eager for action. Applications to UCSC at the freshperson level is down very slightly--basically at a flat level with last year. Freshperson admission is up an average of 6 percent throughout UC systemwide. The quality of UCSC's fall 2006 entering class is almost exactly the same as for 2005. All UC campuses are down in their number of transfer student admits. UCSC's transfer population is down approximately 5 percent. This is, in part, why CAFA is interested in retention and honors opportunities.

CAFA has asked CEP to consider whether the Senate Regulation requiring students who carry fewer than 15 credits during a quarter to receive permission from their college should be enforced. Since the change over to AIS, the system has not tagged students unless they attempt to enroll in fewer than 12 units. College representatives indicated that it is not easy to enforce this regulation. Registrar Hunt-Carter will consider the AIS related aspects on this topic including enforcement dates. The topic was introduced at this meeting and will come up for discussion at a future meeting.

CAFA also expressed strong interest in honors opportunities for the campus.

II. Minutes. The minutes for January 17 were accepted as amended.

III. Posthumous degree policy/guidelines.

CEP's posthumous degree policy was last reviewed in 1990. One reason to review the policy now is the current interest in giving recognition other than in the form of a degree (one certificate issued during fall 2006), as appropriate. The Committee considered three UC sample policies. Related to posthumous degrees, "nearly completed" needs clarification. Some campuses state the systemwide GPA minimum in their policies (2.0). A sample of a certificate was reviewed. It

should not look too much like a diploma, yet it should look official. It needs to be clear that it is not coming from the University but from the college. A campuswide standard would be easier to administer than college specific criteria and appearances of issued certificates. Registrar Hunt-Carter will collaborate with Member David Helmbold to develop guidelines and another sample for consideration at a future meeting.

IV. Catalog Topics.

Sociology: CEP reviewed a draft response to the Department of Sociology. The letter is supported with the elimination of two sentences. CEP thinks it is important that Sociology offer the 196A course more than once per year to enable students to retake it or take it in quarters other than fall, such as after traveling abroad. CEP reaffirmed that it does not support the two course option. One suggested alternative was for students to attend the graduate seminar.

Art: "Insert A" of the department's proposed catalog change document is the substantive portion of the PDF for this discussion. CEP discussed the benefits of pre-majors overall. For most departments with pre-major programs, certain classes are restricted to pre-majors and majors. In some cases, students need to have achieved a certain grade minimum for admission into the major. The Art Department is proposing that to get into the Art major students would need to receive a B or better in 3 out of 4 preparatory courses. As an apparently separate matter, if students received a C or better, they could not repeat a course for grade improvement (though they could still repeat the course without receiving more academic credit). CEP wonders about the effect of these pre-major policies on transfer students. Would more than 4 attempts to receive a B or better at a community college be okay? Would the department enforce the GPA requirement for transfer students, keeping in mind that community colleges can have a different GPA system than UCSC's? The Committee agrees that this pre-major may keep students on track for getting to major declaration by forcing them to go elsewhere for their major earlier than might otherwise be the case. Before making its decision, CEP would like to consider the department's response regarding how this proposal may apply to transfer students. It was noted that if the motivation for the pre-major is to better manage the course capacity, there may be no reason to apply the expectations to the performance of transfer students from other colleges. If capacity is the sole reason, CEP wonders whether the policy should apply to transfer students, given that capacity is about students who are here now.

History: Discussion carried forward to a future meeting.

V. W Topics.

The Department of Literature is proposing to aid in solving the problem with capacity for the writing-requirement (W) by offering Literature 5 several times per year for non-majors. They have requested 24 TAships to meet the need of these offerings. Members commented that this is a good contribution which they are thankful to Literature for proposing but that it is not the solution since it does not keep the W in the disciplines of the students. CEP will continue its work and attempt to keep the W in the departments or divisions. If the W moves to being supported at the divisional level rather than in all departments, Literature's proposal could solve the problem for that division. It was noted that Literature's proposal resembles in some aspects

the UCD model where the writing program manages the writing requirement. However, the UCD model allows for writing geared broadly to disciplines.

Chair Padgett received an inquiry as to whether the W designation could be attached to upper-division courses taught in other languages than English. The Committee supports this idea as long as it can be determined that the writing is beyond the level of the C1 or C2 requirements. It would need to be proven for each course that it meets what CEP expects for writing-intensive courses.

VI. Retention task force draft charge.

The Committee was reminded that there are two tasks to be completed on the topic of retention. The first is to respond to last spring's resolution. The second is to provide a draft task force charge to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC).

CEP supported the draft report to the Senate in response to the May 2006 resolution. The report will be submitted for the March 9 Senate Meeting.

The Committee confirmed that the draft task force charge is ready to be forwarded to SEC.

VII. Honors topics. Campuswide designation.

This topic was carried forward to a future meeting due to lack of time.

Attest,

Jaye Padgett, Chair
Committee of Educational Policy