

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY**  
**MINUTES**  
**December 6, 2006**  
**12:30-2 p.m., Kerr Hall RM 307**

Present: Heather Bullock, Joel Ferguson (Provost rep), 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: Flori Lima (SUA rep).

Guests: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar) and Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE).

**I. Announcements.**

Members were reminded that the first meeting of winter quarter is on Wednesday, January 10, 12:30-2. The meeting will begin with an executive session.

The Senate will hold a forum on January 19 from 2-3:30 p.m. to discuss the process to select a chancellor.

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) expressed an interest in general education reform. They encouraged that a letter be sent to department and program chairs pointing to a URL at which the presentation given at the November 17 Senate Meeting will be available. SEC discussed privilege on the floor of Senate Meetings for non-Senate teaching faculty (NSTF). The NSTF representatives will be asked to prepare a justification for further consideration.

Chair Padgett will attend the Committee on Planning and Budget meeting tomorrow regarding the draft strategic academic plan.

Senate Chair Crosby called a meeting to discuss integrated student learning. CEP member Professor Russ Flegal attended and reported regarding the meeting. Discussion items included how to improve information technology support for students, how to improve representation from SUA, curricular challenges such as the need for more writing-intensive classes or seats in existing classes and responsibility for the GE needs of undergraduates. Positive feedback was expressed at the meeting to the oral presentation given on November 17 regarding general education reform.

Professor Flegal also attended and reported on the meeting called by VPDUE Ladusaw regarding TurnItIn.com. Faculty have responded that they find this resource valuable to try to find purchased papers used for multiple submissions, which is known to be a genuine problem. VPDUE Ladusaw will assess whether the benefits outweigh the cost of a subscription.

Chair Padgett informed the Committee of a request submitted to CEP for an enrollment restriction (interview only) on a topical (T) course in physics and pointed out that Senate Regulations say that topical courses are to be offered “at a level appropriate to non-majors”. The

instructor for the course in question wants prospective course enrollees to submit a short essay for his review to make a decision on who may enroll. CEP is concerned about the precedence that would be set by approving this request. This strategy could present greater difficulties for students to find courses for their general education requirements than already exist. The Committee notes that creating a course to satisfy GE requirements can attract students who may not be interested in the subject, or who may not know whether they are interested in the subject. CEP wonders whether the department has considered offering this course at a level more appropriate for such a restriction to be added. Chair Padgett will contact the department with a recommendation that they consider renumbering the course if they wish to proceed.

The Committee was reminded to respond to the Committee on Committee's call for preferences for service for 2007-08.

Members were given assignments regarding writing-intensive courses at other universities. Chair Padgett provided a handout with points for discussion to aid in their conversations with other campuses. The responses will be discussed at the January 17 meeting.

**II. Minutes.** The November 22 minutes were accepted as amended.

**III. Biomedical Engineering draft response.**

CEP reviewed a draft response to the biomedical engineering draft proposal for a bachelor of science degree. The number of required courses was clarified to be 30, not 26, several with associated credit carrying laboratory sections. A few suggestions were given regarding the structure of the letter. The changes will be made and the letter sent in the coming week. The proposal was approved pending the creation of a student plan that does not assume a student has satisfied ELWR and Math 19A by the start of Winter quarter.

**IV. Draft Campus Academic Plan response.**

The Committee reviewed a draft response to the Draft Strategic Campus Academic Plan. The language regarding the lack of writing-intensive seats was modified. The availability of seats for this requirement is expected to be worse this year. A concern was expressed as to the effect on teaching assistant support on undergraduate courses that may be caused by the shift of resources described in the draft plan. The letter will be revised and circulated for feedback by the end of the week.

**V. Retention task force.**

SEC wrote to CEP asking them to develop a draft charge for a task force on retention per the May 2006 Senate Resolution. Chair Padgett discussed with the Committee whether or not to respond to SEC that a steering committee should be formed now rather than a task force since that would provide an on-going committee for retention rather than a a short-term task force.

VPDUE Ladusaw apprised the group on his recent research regarding retention task forces at other institutions and the common result of creating an on-going steering committee. Benefits of

the steering committee include the opportunity to bring faculty into the discussion who are not currently serving on either CEP or the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA) and to involve students in the process. He suggested that the Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management could co-lead the steering committee with the VPDUE.

CEP decided to follow the points of the Senate Resolution as written, including formation of a task force at this time rather than a steering committee. The taskforce could work toward formation of a steering committee and identify other recommendations through their process.

The Committee will ask for an extension to respond to SEC.

#### **VI. EE Biology request for the W designation on 188A-B.**

The Committee discussed the request submitted by the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology to add the writing-intensive designation to courses 188A (Specialized Teaching) and 188B (Supervised Teaching). Additionally, the department is asking to increase each of these courses from 2 credits to 5, and for them to be repeatable.

The current CEP agrees with past committees who have set a limit on teaching for credit experiences of a total of 5 credits. They also agreed that the courses should not be repeatable. The Committee Chair will tell the department that the request for the courses to be repeatable was denied and will ask the department to revise their request to a total not to exceed 5 credits between these 2 courses. It is noted that undergraduates, following such course experiences, are often qualified to be appointed as Course Assistants, a means by which they may provide teaching assistant support for pay (not credit), when a qualified graduate student cannot be found to take teaching assistant positions.

Attest,

Jaye Padgett, Chair  
Committee on Educational Policy