

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

**March 5, 2008
Wednesday, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307**

Present: Larissa Adams (SUA Rep), Jamal Atiba (SUA Rep), Joel Ferguson (Provost Rep), Pamela Hunt-Carter (Registrar, ex officio), Roxanne Monnet (ASO Staff), Loisa Nygaard, Jaye Padgett (Chair), Kip Tellez , Jack Vevea.

Absent: Russ Flegal, David Helmbold, Sarah-Hope Parmeter (NSTF).

Guests: Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Elaine Kihara (Academic Preceptor Designee), Bill Ladusaw (VPDUE), Michael McCawley (Acting Director of Admissions).

I. Announcements and Updates.

CEP members reviewed for the group their recent several visits to departments to discuss general education reform. Again this week writing was confirmed as a top priority by faculty. One department suggested that if writing support were to return to the former model of teaching in departments with undergraduate tutor help (instructional assistants) the problem of having enough classes to accommodate students might be solved. Strong support was given for a language requirement. Some departments were not enthusiastic about a quantitative or other math requirement. Positive feedback was received with regard to the need to develop teamwork and cultural sensitivity. Mixed feedback was received regarding ethics as an educational objective. This underscores the common misunderstanding in these meetings that educational objectives translate directly into course content. Negative responses were received on the topic of service learning, mainly for pragmatic reasons (time consuming to maintain; needs to be done well or not at all). One department particularly liked the idea of clustering courses on a common theme across divisions. Departments visited this week agree that what comes out of the reform needs to be flexible.

Members were asked to provide notes from their GE department meetings to Chair Padgett by March 20 so that he may work them into talking points for a meeting in early April.

On April 30 there will be a UC honor's consortium in Monterey hosted by VPDUE Ladusaw's office. The goal of the consortium is for the UCs to have the opportunity to learn what other campuses are doing in the way of honors programs. The format will be roundtable discussions. Members and SUA reps were asked to respond by Friday if they wanted to attend the event.

CEP was reminded of Friday's Senate Meeting at which a Resolution on conflict management will be presented. Also at this meeting CPB will give a report on professional schools. CEP confirmed its plan to give a brief oral report on the consultations thus far related to GE Reform and the plans leading up to legislation in the fall.

Chair Padgett will attend divisional council of chairs meetings in May to which departmental undergraduate directors will be invited. The divisional deans will attend a portion of CEP's May

21 meeting. Members will each give the GE presentation to a meeting of two college student governments in April or May. CEP will conduct an opinion poll of undergraduates through their election system in May. A representative from the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) will be invited to attend an April meeting to discuss topics for which CEP could use CPB's support toward creation of a proposal for the May meeting.

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (VPA) Alison Galloway has asked that CEP provide any post external review closure meeting feedback to her in time for her to modify the closure letter. Ideally there will be no need to give additional feedback after the closure meeting but if it is found to be necessary, she asks that it be prompt.

A draft letter of response to the History of Arts and Visual Culture (HAVC) external review was reviewed by members who gave their support for the letter, with minor edits.

II. Minutes. The minutes from February 6 were accepted as amended.

III. Opinion poll questions.

CEP discussed possible questions for the May opinion poll of undergraduates. It was decided that the questions would build off of those put to the faculty in the recent department visits. The group discussed which questions would be best asked at the upcoming visits with college governments versus in the opinion poll.

The Committee decided to start by asking for general information about students, such as their division and year, and whether they are junior transfer students.

A list of points was created related to their educational experience at UCSC. Questions related to writing and core courses will be included. The poll will start and close with open-ended questions (Such as opening with: if you could change one thing about the first year experience, what would it be? And closing with something like: is there anything you want to add?)

A question for seniors was discussed. (For example: what do you feel is missing from your education that you believe you will need in the future: writing skills, quantitative skills, knowledge of a language, and other, with a box for comments.) CEP was reminded that the Office of Institutional Research conducts a senior survey each year and that this is an on-going opportunity for CEP to address questions to that cohort.

Chair Padgett will create a draft set of questions based on this meeting's feedback for consideration next week. A clear statement of how the information will be used will serve as the introductory paragraph.

IV. Minimum upper-division units for each Major.

CEP considered the number of upper-division (UD) credits required per major. Very few degree programs require fewer than 40 UD credits—apparently just three. CEP voted to propose legislation for the May Senate Meeting for a minimum of 40 credits of UD coursework for majors.

V. Double counting.

The Committee discussed allowance of overlapping coursework after students have met minimum thresholds for their majors/minors (40 and 25 UD credits respectively). It is the current thinking of CEP that overlap of UD requirements is acceptable, so long as a significant amount of non-overlapping work as described above takes place, constituting demonstrated proficiency in the area of the additional designation(s).

Members considered defining a number of courses to allow to overlap versus setting a number of UD credits that must be distinct per degree after which any number of courses may overlap. All members present prefer the latter.

The discussion on double counting will continue toward the development of draft legislation.

VI. Catalog reviews.

Consideration of the disqualification policy proposed by Chemistry was carried forward in the absence of the member leading the discussion.

CEP discussed the proposed ISTM Minor. In response to CEP's request, the sponsoring unit added requirements to bring the Minor up to the required 25 UD credits. They continue to request that minors be permitted to overlap two courses with other majors. In light of the planned change to regulations on overlap, CEP did not feel it was necessary to approve a request for overlap specific to ISTM. Chair Padgett will write to the sponsors with a tentative deny on the request for overlapping coursework. He will explain CEP's planned legislation that may apply to most of their students. If the unit would like further consideration for the overlapping coursework request, they will need to make a case for it, providing an educational justification. Learning that students may want to take CMPS 180 in lieu of 182, CEP's response to the unit will also ask whether they would like that option built into the minor at this time.

The School of Engineering's proposal for double counting of coursework was carried forward so that the broader discussion of overlapping coursework would occur first.

So attests,

Jaye Padgett, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy