

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

June 4, 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), Russ Flegal, David Helmbold, Pamela Hunt-Carter (Registrar, ex officio), Roxanne Monnet (ASO Staff), Loisa Nygaard, Jaye Padgett (Chair), Jack Vevea.

Absent: Kip Tellez.

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

I. Announcements and updates.

Chair Padgett invited meeting attendees to a year-end gathering.

He announced that CEP's legislation to change SCR 10.4 passed with a revision made from the floor. In two places "requirements" was changed to "minimum credits" which means that a Minor with 25 upper-division (UD) credits combined with a Major of 45 UD credits would allow 5 credits of overlapping UD work.

Also at the May 30 Senate Meeting Chair Padgett gave an oral report to introduce the general education reform pre-proposal. The oral report took an amount of time that did not allow much time for feedback. Topical course clusters got a favorable response from faculty following the meeting.

Chair Padgett visited the Council of Chairs in the Division of Physical and Biological Sciences this morning. Undergraduate directors were also in attendance. Participants requested a more fleshed out proposal to which to respond. Chair Padgett told them that CEP needs their help to create the more detailed proposal and that CEP plans to follow up these meetings in a concrete way with tailored questions, asking all departments to formally respond by mid-October. They discussed creating educational objectives at the department and division level as well as educational objectives for disciplinary communication at the department level. Concern was expressed about fitting anything more in to the heavy first year of most science and engineering students.

A CEP member attended the Porter College student government meeting last week. Negative feedback was given by the students about writing in core courses. Those present seemed to understand the current general education system better than many faculty. Some students commented that they selected GE courses based on which would take the least amount of time, and see them as a burden to get out of the way. More interest was expressed in breadth courses than other GEs.

Monday's UCEP conference was reviewed by Chair Padgett for CEP. The Academic Council will put a version of the BOARS proposal before the Assembly for a vote this month. The

version being considered changed from 5 percent Eligibility in the Statewide Context (ESC) and 12 percent in the local context (ELC) to 9 and 9. There is a significant amount of overlap between the two groups, leading to an expected total of ~10.5 ESC/ELC, leaving ~1.5 percent room for Entitled to Review. The question has been raised as to whether this is such a different proposal that it should be vetted through the Senate. It is not clear that the revised proposal has BOARS' support due to there being very little room for those deemed Entitled to Review as described in the proposal. UCEP also discussed the proposal to change state law on students affected by policy code 5150 (hospital holds for psychiatric reasons) which would allow that people who oversee dorms be notified when a student who was held on a 5150 charge has been released. UCEP is troubled by the privacy issue.

CEP was asked to consider whether the clock for students who received an Incomplete should be stopped while they are on non-EAP leaves. The Committee was reminded that students have one quarter to make up the mutually agreed upon work of the Incomplete. Instructors define the expectations for resolution of the Incomplete and may give less than a full quarter for the work to be done. CEP expressed concern over the potential for no automatic limit in the system and long gaps for unresolved Incompletes. To lift the one-quarter limit would create an implementational as well as a documentation issue. If there is no automatic resolution to an Incomplete (at present they automatically roll to F or NP), students may think that there continues to be the option to resolve the Incomplete by virtue of there being no grade notation in their record. CEP members commented that they would rather have exceptions for certain extenuating circumstances related to Incompletes and not lift the time limit for those on leave. The current rule gives clarity to students and instructors on what will happen and when. It is not currently clear what, if any, exceptions may be permitted without a legislative change. More consideration will be given to determining whether there are associated topics to raise next year.

CEP received an inquiry from the Chair of CAFA related to students admitted by exception and the possible need for waivers of general education requirements for certain documented disabilities. The Committee was reminded that although CEP may waive local GE and breadth requirements, it is extremely rare that CEP does. CEP was asked whether they support such waivers conceptually and concluded that each case is too individual to allow for an across the board response to this question. The Committee in its response will reaffirm to CAFA its ability to grant waivers and the need for students to successfully petition to CEP for such waivers on a case by case basis. Since CEP's membership changes annually and may make different decisions on such petitions than another CEP, CAFA should not think that admitting students by exception is risk-free with regard to the waiving of requirements, whether by CEP, colleges, or departments.

CEP was informed of the request made by Chemistry to postpone the next external review and supported the request.

II. Minutes. No minutes were confirmed at this meeting.

III. Catalog.

Linguistics: The Department of Linguistics accepted CEP's recommendations on their proposed disqualification policy. The department will be notified that the revised policy has been approved by CEP.

Sociology–GISES: CEP continued the discussion regarding the request to require a B average for all to complete the Minor and reaffirmed that they do not support that portion of the request, since a C grade is passing. CEP thinks differently about grade requirements as part of a policy of admission to the Minor. One problematic scenario would be the student who drops below a B average due to one poor grade very late in their career. CEP approved the requests made in the proposal with the exception of the B average requirement. The Committee discussed how to list GISES related information in the catalog. They prefer that the lead information be added to Sociology's program statement, that the intensive major be listed with the other Sociology majors, and that the GISES minor be listed with the other minor. Course approval paperwork has not yet been submitted for SOCY 190G. CEP members approved that Chair Padgett send a letter on their behalf without review of a draft.

Honors: The Committee discussed text to include in the catalog related to the Honors designations passed by the Senate last fall. A revision of the text will be considered next week. One change will be replacement of the word eligible with the phrase considered for. There was a recommendation to define group at the beginning of the text.

Double counting and minimum UD credits: The group considered text changes to catalog sections titled double counting, major and minors, declaring the major, additional majors and minors, and will continue the discussion next week.

IV, V, VI. Various topics.

The remaining agenda items (discussion of the administration's proposed strategic action plan, possible changes to CEP's disqualification policy, and discussion of a draft undergraduate program review document on practices and issues) will be carried forward to next week.

VII. GE Reform next steps.

CEP discussed holding a forum in the fall to gather more faculty feedback regarding a concrete general education reform proposal. The Senate leadership is willing to allow CEP use of the timeslot set for the first Senate Meeting, barring submission of any urgent legislation that cannot wait for the second fall meeting.

At today's meeting, the department chairs in Physical and Biological Sciences agreed to send at least one faculty member to the fall forum, if the department chair or their undergraduate director is not available, another faculty member will be designated. At the other divisional meetings planned for tomorrow, Chair Padgett will ask the department chairs to make the same commitment.

CEP hopes to have several concrete proposals to focus the discussion at the forum.

So attests,

Jaye Padgett, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy