

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
MINUTES**

**January 21, 2009  
Wednesday, 11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307**

Present: Linda Burman-Hall, Holly Cordova (NSTF Rep), Dave Helmbold, Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex officio*), Roxanne Monnet (ASO analyst), Loisa Nygaard, Jaye Padgett (Chair), Don Potts, Ravi Rajan (Provost Rep), Shawn Riley (SUA Rep), Eileen Zurbriggen.

Absent: Matthew Palm (SUA Rep).

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

**I. Announcements, updates, and minutes.**

A one-sentence addition will be considered to the November 26 minutes via email (related to the writing-intensive requirement discussion). Otherwise the minutes for November 26 and December 3 were accepted as amended.

The Mathematics Department external review closure meeting was reviewed for CEP. The Math graduate program seems fragile in that there are few options for staffing the key analysis courses. Interaction with the Applied Math and Statistics Department was discussed. It was mentioned that Mathematics is considering discontinuation of Math 2 (college algebra). CEP thinks that the loss of this course could cause significant issues for students. If Math 2 is dropped, then pre-calculus would probably be the lowest level math course on campus. Chair Padgett will contact VPDUE Ladusaw regarding the suggestion that Math 2 might be discontinued.

**II. Disciplinary Communication (DC) legislative proposal.**

The Committee discussed a draft justification to accompany the disciplinary communication (DC) legislation that was submitted last week for the February 18 Senate Meeting. Draft guidelines for DC courses and the Senate Resolution on the writing-intensive requirement (endorsed by the Senate at its March 2007 meeting) will be attached to the proposal as appendices. The recommendations made in the March 2007 Resolution will be reshaped to fit the current DC proposal. Another version of the justification will be considered next week.

Chair Padgett updated CEP on the funding proposal to support the needs for the DC requirement that the Committee on Planning and Budget is developing. There could be a funding decision in time to announce it at the Senate Meeting.

Historically, the writing-intensive (W) requirement was administered primarily through the Writing Program (WP) who signed off on course requests before CEP approved them and made the decisions on access to writing tutors. The current proposal is a shift in responsibility from it resting on the WP to a partnership where the WP is an advisor to Major sponsoring units, with CEP retaining oversight.

### **III. Non-writing General Education topics.**

Subcommittees presented possible educational goals for general education (GE) requirements as follows.

CEP discussed a draft statement for a GE requirement in the area of ethnicity and race. The subcommittee intentionally did not limit the scope of the requirement to the United States, given faculty feedback. Topics could extend beyond this country as long as these courses focus on issues of race and ethnicity and aim to prepare students for a state and a world which are increasingly multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-racial. Another version of text for a requirement in this area will be on next week's agenda.

"Visual, auditory, and performative fluencies" was discussed as a possible GE requirement. The idea is for students to develop skills in interpreting visual and/or auditory images.

A requirement in the area of environmental understanding was discussed. This requirement is envisioned as one that would give students the tools that they need to continue to deal with these issues in their life beyond the University, and prepare them to deal in informed ways on issues involving people and the environment. It was recommended that courses in this area ideally be cross-disciplinary, such as global warming and politics rather than just global warming.

Discussions on possible general education requirements will continue next week.

### **IV. SCR 6.5.6: Independent Studies.**

CEP briefly discussed SCR 6.5, the associated systemwide Regulation (SR 764), and an approved variance to that Regulation. UCSC's current Divisional Regulation gives explicit detail on what are the independent studies courses and requires that the colleges be involved in the approval loop. SCR 764 uses the term "special studies" not "independent studies". UCSC's approved variance points to courses numbered 49 (now 99) and 199. CEP will encourage the Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections to wait to ask the University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction questions of clarification on SR 764 and the approved variance until it is known whether UCEP will propose a change to SR 764 or whether CEP will put a vote to the Senate to change SCR 6.5.

So attests,

Jaye Padgett, Chair  
Committee on Educational Policy