

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

April 14, 2010

Wednesday, 11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307

Present: Holly Cordova (NSTF Rep), Cormac Flanagan, Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex officio*), Jimin Lee, Roxanne Monnet (Staff), Matthew Palm (SUA Rep), Deanna Shemek (Provost Rep), John Tamkun (Chair), Peter Young, Eileen Zurbriggen.

Absent: Eric Porter.

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

I. Announcements and updates.

Chair Tamkun updated the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) on the recent Senate Executive Committee (SEC) combined Chancellor's Cabinet (CabSEC) meeting. At the next Senate Meeting, SEC will put to before the Senate legislation to make narrative evaluations optional. It was announced that students who were present at the November Kerr Hall Building occupation will be fined, whether or not there was evidence of their having been involved in acts of vandalism. This issue is expected to be raised at the Senate Meeting. Changes to health care benefits may be forthcoming from the UC Office of the President, including for retired employees.

Community Studies update: Transfer students entering fall 2010 will not have the option of the Community Studies degree as a rule. If there is excel capacity in courses, there may be a small amount of space for transfer students, however, the message to entering students is that they need to enter in another major. Six entering students had indicated their intent to Major in Community Students. They have all been contacted personally to make clear that this major would not be an option. Since there is no preparation coursework that transfer students could take that directly counts toward the Community Studies major, they would not have been spending time taking coursework specific to this Major. Students have asked to have more direct contact with faculty, administration, and CEP about the implications for them caused by the recent suspension of the major. Chair Tamkun will meet with students at noon on Tuesday, to address their concerns. Members were welcomed to attend the meeting. The department's teach-out plan for the term of the suspension will be forthcoming to CEP.

II. Language Program post-consultation letter.

In their post-consultation letter from the March visit by Language Program Chair Shigeko and Professor Mark Cioc, CEP will indicate to the dean the need for official confirmation of the co-

chair appointment of Professor Cioc for the Language Program. Additionally, CEP will ask that the Dean forward the Language Program GE course proposals for CEP review.

Chair Tamkun wrote to CRJE Chair John Jordon to clarify whether curricular decisions are governed by Senate Bylaw (SB) 55A on department decision making. Chair Jordan indicated his personal opinion that curricular changes are covered by SB 55A. He added that faculty groups may vote to give curricular authority to a group smaller than the whole of the faculty or to the department chair.

III. Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate credits.

Associate Director for Admissions McCawley indicated that about half of the incoming students have some amount of Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) credit. Presently in AIS satisfaction of a major requirement and GE requirement are coupled on many courses. To separate them will mean that students must go to departments for individual review of their transfer materials before credit to the major will be given.

CEP decided that where a department has deemed a course equivalent to a UCSC course in their department that CEP has deemed appropriate for the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning (MF) requirement or the Statistical Reasoning (SR) requirement, CEP will accept the course for which ever of MF or SR was approved.

Presently, GE credit is given on a score of AP score of 3, and credit toward the major on scores of 4 or 5. Associate Director McCawley indicated that most institutions no longer grant credit for scores of 3.

CEP decided that since the C1/C2 requirements are unchanged from the old GE system to the new system, no changes were necessary for AP and IB exams toward these requirements.

Discussion on this topic will continue at a future meeting.

IV. General Education topics.

Members were provided with a consent agenda of GE course proposals and were asked to provide comments and/of support by the end of tomorrow. No one raised items from last week's consent agenda for further discussion and is now approved.

V. Disciplinary Communication proposals.

CEP continued its discussion of Disciplinary Communication (DC) proposals. The Committee discussed the need for cumulativity of writing throughout the DC courses. The writing should not be solely at the end of the quarter, in order for students to received feedback and have the opportunity to response to the feedback through demonstration of improved disciplinary writing.

All of the below mention proposals will be raised at future meetings for approval.

Environmental Studies: Completion of an upper-division seminar course was proposed. Most proposed courses were senior level courses. ENVS 100L gateway looked acceptable to CEP. For the other courses in the proposal there was a focus solely on the page numbers which left CEP without a complete picture of whether the courses met the department's DC objectives for its students. Writing in the internship is spread over the quarter. Students receive significant feedback. In some of the senior seminars the writing was set solely toward the end of the course which did not appear to meeting CEP's expectations for cumulativity. In the combined Earth Sciences/Environmental Studies Major, their did not appear to be enough writing in the proposed courses. ENVS 100 consisted significantly of collaborative writing in one of the proposed courses. CEP reaffirmed that the collaborative writing could count in the disciplinary communication material beyond the required minimum writing of 18 pages. There is also 10 pages of individual writing. The department's request that the DC courses be allowed a double GE designation will be discussed at a future meeting. CEP thought that the senior internship option seemed weak. There appears to be very broad participation on who may supervise the students. ENVS 100 looks good for the Perspectives in Environmental Awareness (PE-E) requirement and ENVS 100L appears appropriate for another requirement. These two courses are the focus of their DC. Discussion this proposal will continue at a future meeting.

History of Arts and Visual Culture (HAVC): HAVC is proposed for the DC requirement. The course is currently a writing-intensive (W) course. Students writing 5, 5 page assignments. One of which will require a revision. There are bi-weekly assignments, spread over the quarter.

Computer Engineering: CMPE 185 was proposed for the DC for Computer Engineering Majors. This is a technical writing course involving 35-40 pages, which includes a draft that receives peer feedback. The revision to that draft gets instructor and/or teaching assistant feedback. Students also give an oral presentation and a poster.

Biomolecular Engineering: CMPE 185 was proposed for the DC requirement for Bioinformatics majors. See detail listed above for Computer Engineering Majors.

Information Systems Management: In course ISM 158 students write ~35-40 pages. Group work is mentioned in the proposal, leaving CEP unclear of whether the minimum independent writing (18 pages) is achieved. Most of the writing appears to occur in weeks 8 and 9, with the proposal being written in week 3. CEP may approve the proposal on the assumption that the minimum independent writing requirement will be met.

Chemistry: One, required two-credit course in organic chemistry (151L) and one section of 146A, B, or C (will be 3 credits each) were proposed for the DC requirement for these majors. Completion of an senior research these (CHEM 195) was another option proposed as an option for the DC. In CHEM 151L, students are given a format for their writing. Eight short lab reports are required. Students receive format expectations early in the quarter, which are graded with comments for improvements. Each section of 146 differs. In CHEM 146A a report is due in week 10 and another 15 page report is due during finals week. In CHEM 146B 4 reports of 10 pages each is requires in research paper form. These are corrected once and returned to the student. In CHEM 146C 8, 4-5 pages reports are required regarding the experiments in the class. A draft of each report is reviewed and returned for correction. Chair Tamkun recused himself

from the discussion. It was proposed that transfer students take CHEM 122 instead of CHEM 151L. However, the catalog program statement for Chemistry states that CHEM 146 is required for transfer students. CEP will ask the department to clarify this point. The above mentioned courses do not include laboratory notebooks as part of the proposed DC writing. It will be confirmed that where the department mentioned CHEM 180A/B/C in the proposal, it should say CHEM 195. Last year Chemistry changed the numbering of their senior thesis to from 180 to 195, at CEP's request. In their response, CEP will ask the department to consider matching the ways that students may satisfy the writing-intensive requirement with those of the DC requirement for these majors.

Molecular and Cell Development Biology (MCDB) and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB): MCDB and BMB (under Chemistry) proposed three courses toward the DC that appear to have only laboratory notebook writing. It thought CEP that the writing in these classes may be too raw and unstructured. Whereas writing toward the DC should be written in complete sentences, more polished, and clear. The Committee thought that the writing proposed for these courses did not appear to meet the requirement. CEP recognizes that lab notebooks can take many forms but the proposal did not give detail on the form for the lab notebooks required in these courses. The Committee recognized that these notebooks are important forms of disciplinary communication but was not convinced that they should count toward the minimum 18 pages of writing. CEP wondered these notebooks alone were sufficient to teach students to communicate in the discipline when they leave UCSC, and whether they would be prepared to write in the ways that scientists need to write. In its response CEP will indicate to the departments that if they wish to further defend these lab courses as part of the core 18 pages of writing for the DC, it may be beneficial to CEP to see samples.

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB): EEB proposed only one course in which the writing consisted of only lab notebooks to which the information noted above applies.

General Biology: The laboratory reports and the primary writing described in the proposal appear to meet the minimum writing requirements for the DC.

VI. Disqualification policy.

CEP began its discussion of policies for disqualification from an undergraduate Major. The Committee recognized the need to decide what data to request for request to establish or change disqualification policies. At an upcoming meeting CEP will consider whether its standing disqualification policy needs modification.

For limits on qualification to a major (admission), CEP confirmed that it wants to see clear evidence that a student will not succeed unless the student has met the academic bar indicated in the proposed admission policy.

For disqualification from the major, the department should provide evidence that students are highly unlikely to succeed in a major if they have not achieved the defined bar. CEP recognized the importance of disqualifying students from majors earlier enough for them to complete another major in a timely fashion.

VII. Catalog topics.

This week's catalog topics were carried forward due to lack of time.

VIII. UC Commission on the Future.

Discussion on the UC Commission on the Future report was carried forward due to lack of time.

So attests,

John Tamkun, Chair
Committee to Educational Policy