

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

June 2, 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), Eric Porter, John Tamkun (Chair), Peter Young, Eileen Zurbriggen.

Absent: Matthew Palm (SUA Rep), Justin Riordan (SUA Rep), Deanna Shemek (Provost Rep).

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

I. Announcement and Updates.

Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) members were asked to comment on the consent agenda of course approvals in the next two days. Members delegated to CEP Chair Tamkun the authority to determine over the summer when a syllabus meets the expectations for a GE proposal for those proposals that were conditionally approved. Members were asked to give final comments on the general education (GE) proposal review checklists as soon as possible. The information will be used to create individual course approval blurbs for each GE designation.

Chair Tamkun spoke with the Environmental Studies Department chair about CEP's initial feedback on their disqualification from the major policy. He explained the need for disqualification not to occur very late in a student's academic career.

Today was the deadline for transfer admits to submit their intents to register for the fall. UCSC normally gets ~1175 students responding. This year >1400 responded--a 40 percent increase. Given the very large increase in frosh admits two years ago, the increased number of junior level transfer students will mean even more competition for upper-division courses.

II. Jewish Studies BA proposal.

CEP discussed the revised proposal for the Jewish Studies BA. The Committee found the revisions satisfactory, and approved the major and the proposed Disciplinary Communication (DC). However, CEP continued to have some concerns about the History Department's ability and willingness to support this major, making the approval somewhat conditional as outlined below.

Jewish Studies responded satisfactorily to the Committee's initial concerns about major requirements. Changing the foundation course series from a two-course requirement, with each course being offered once every other year, to a three-course requirement, with multiple options for fulfilling two of these requirements, will give students more flexibility and prevent scenarios

where the inability to get into a course would delay graduation for a quarter or more. Enabling junior college transfers to declare the major after one quarter of Hebrew language instruction, rather than three, addresses our concern that transfer students without a background in this language would either not be able to declare the major or would have their graduation delayed. The Humanities Dean's commitment to continue funding Hebrew alleviated another concern CEP had following the Humanities Advisory Task Force Report's suggestion that the Division consider making cuts to instruction in languages not already required for a major.

CEP also approved of the plan for the Jewish Studies DC requirement to be met through a seminar in History. Although this may not be the ideal situation for students with a more literary orientation, History is a relevant disciplinary focus in the major. Moreover, these courses will enable students to engage in independent research and writing on a topic of their choosing. Although the History Chair raised the question of whether these courses are relevant, CEP noted that all the courses that qualify for the Jewish Studies major are taught by participating faculty in Jewish Studies.

CEP remained concerned about Jewish Studies' ability to offer BA requirements taught by participating faculty with the frequency necessary for a quality major experience completed in good time. The department chair's letter, while ultimately supportive of the major, made clear that program faculty members' responsibilities to the History Department may prevent them from teaching as often for Jewish Studies as desired. While it seems that Jewish Studies' exceptional fundraising abilities will likely provide the finances to hire lecturers to mount their curriculum, it is unacceptable to CEP, should it come to that, for a major to be sustained primarily on the labor of temporary academic staffing.

With this in mind, CEP approved the major. However, if History is not forthcoming with support for this major in the future, the Jewish Studies program faculty need to commit to maintaining the major with the existing resources or with what they can raise, in order to meet the obligation for these students. If the program faculty follow through with plans to launch the major, it is up to them to guarantee that a sufficient number of Jewish Studies courses are taught by program faculty. CEP would be very concerned if the thinking is that this major will be sustained with a very high percentage of non-Senate faculty doing the teaching.

CEP approved the request for a subject area in Jewish Studies (JWST).

Both Jewish Studies and History have suggested the possibility of capping the major to avoid potential enrollment problems in History seminars and to prevent overburdening department staff. In the absence of a detailed admissions policy and in light of the letter from March 23, 2010, regarding the lack of a campus definition for impactation, CEP did not approve the cap. If the program begins admitting students, it is responsible for accommodating all students who meet the requirements for declaring the major. CEP would be happy to consult with Jewish Studies in the future about appropriate criteria for an admission to the Major policy.

III. DC Topics.

As noted above the Jewish Studies DC proposal was approved as revised.

Italian Studies: Provost Deanna Shemek, also director of the Italian Studies degree program, circulated a revised proposal for the Italian Studies DC proposal. The idea proposed was that students' would satisfy their DC with individualized capstones. A list of the individualized seminar courses was attached for consideration. Some of the proposed courses have already been approved to carry the DC for history majors. The students are already doing the writing work but what is needed is a mechanism for enrolling for the necessary 5 upper-division credits and to ensure that there will be feedback and instruction in disciplinary communication in all allowed courses. There was discussion of creating a 1 credit course that would include some of the instruction in disciplinary communication, after which student would complete their senior seminar to satisfy the DC. The course would be in literature. Letters of support are needed from each department whose courses would be relied upon. Provost Shemek recused herself for the balance of the discussion. CEP had concerns about approving that a DC would be satisfied for students on a "by permission of the instructor" basis. The concern was some students might be left without a DC option.

CEP was prepared to approve the proposal, contingent on the completion of CEP's DC statement form which would include both courses that could be stand-alone DC options as well as combinations of two, involving the new course discussed earlier. Course approval documentation is needed as well. Finally, catalog copy is needed. The Committee authorized Chair Tamkun to approve the work within the scope of this discussion.

IV. Catalog topics.

No additional catalog topics were discussed at this meeting.

V. Articulation and general education topics.

CEP was reminded that a score of 3 is currently acceptable for GE credit in association with Advanced Placement (AP) exams. CEP supported that this continue to be the minimum score.

A specific list of AP exams was reviewed. Music theory was not found to be appropriate for Interpreting Arts and Media (IM) or for the Practice: Creative Process (PR-C) designation. Although one such UCSC course was approved for the Mathematical and Formal Reasoning (MF) designation, it was not clear that this AP exam was at the level appropriate for the MF either. Since the UCSC Music Department did not propose such courses for the IM or PR-C, CEP decided against giving either of these designations. The Exam in U.S. government and politics was not found to meet any new GE designation, nor was the human geography exam. Some U.S. History might be acceptable for the Ethnicity and Race (ER) or Textual Analysis and Interpretation (TA) designations. However there is a lot of leeway on teaching of these topics so CEP did not approve either designation for the exam. The remainder of the list was approved to satisfy one GE requirement for up to two years, during which time CEP intends to consider further how to articulate course for the new GEs. The Language GE course approvals requests were discussed. In the new GE system there is nothing designed to be satisfied in light of language instruction. Proposals would need to meet the guidelines of one of the GE categories. It was noted that second year language normally has a heavy amount of cultural content. Two members volunteered to review the language instruction AP courses.

Members were asked to look at the International Baccalaureate (IB) exams electronically, particularly the aims and objectives. It was noted that the IB program is very rigorous, with a heavy workload. UCSC generally has only ~150-175 students who bring in IB credit. Scores of 5, 6, and 7 have been give credit toward UC degrees.

In the packet was a list of Cabrillo courses that are articulated for GE credit in the old GE system. The list will be on next week's agenda for discussion.

VI. Admissions policy requests.

Some years ago, the School of Engineering (SoE) had a schoolwide GPA threshold for admissions. The departments in SoE thought differently from one another about what should be the admissions GPA for their majors, resulting in the lifting of the schoolwide policy. Simultaneously most SoE departments submitted requests for admissions GPAs for their major that were approved in 2008-09.

Computer Sciences (CMPE): CMPS did not get a request submitted when the other departments did last year, and now wants to put back in the catalog the 2.8 GPA that they had before the schoolwide threshold was adopted. To allow the 2.8 GPA was seen as a re-establishment of what was previously approved and what had been exercised in the department who did not realize that it fell between the cracks to get it into the catalog until this year. However, CEP found the following statement to be confusing and potentially problematic: "students with an SOE GPA above 2.5 will be seriously considered in 2010-2011." The statement does not make clear what is the basis for admission with a lower threshold. CEP wanted to know how the department determined 2.5 as the low bar. Given the late date, CEP will reinstate the 2.8 GPA. Through their appeals process the department may consider students with lower GPAs. If the department would like CEP to consider 2.5 for future catalog years, they should provide an explanation of why that level seems appropriate, with supporting data.

Information Systems Management (ISM) Major: For the ISM Major there was a similar situation to that mentioned above for Computer Science. They department asked for a 2.5 GPA to be posted in their program statement. Since that GPA is not more stringent than what they had prior to the schoolwide policy was lifted, CEP approved the request.

Bioengineering Major: CEP found that they could not approve the request to increase the admission GPA from 2.5 to 2.7 for the Bioengineering Major, as was the request for a 3.0 GPA for admission of transfer and juniors. No data was provided to justify the request.

Earth Sciences: The department proposed that students complete one preparatory course before being admitted to the major (EART 5, 10, or 20). The courses do not have prerequisites and are open to non-majors. The request was made for pedagogical reasons and was approved.

Theater Arts: The proposal was to reduce the number of courses needed to move from the pre-major into the major from four to three pre-major courses. The plan met with CEP's preference that students be admitted to majors earlier than is currently the case and was approved.

VIII. Disqualification policy.

It was noted that what is proposed for the disqualification policy for the various biology majors would not prohibit students from continuing to enroll in the courses once disqualified from the major. However, enforcement of the Regulation that requires students to have college permission to take courses a third time would prohibit repeat enrollment.

For the Environmental Studies/Biology combined major, it was noted that genetics could be taken in the senior year since it was not prerequisite to any other course that majors are required to take. That was determined by CEP to be potentially too late in the student's academic career for disqualification. Additionally, consultation would be needed with biology departments on the proposed change to the disqualification policy for the combined major. The request cannot be approved at this time. In its response CEP will mention the Regulation limiting the number times that students may repeat courses without special permission.

IX. University Extension Proposals.

CEP considered three University Extension professional certificates in business. The proposals all have an Economics faculty supervisor. Two are revisions to existing certifications; one is new. All were found to have good pedagogical justification, with strong descriptions and advisory boards. Revamping of the Business Administration certification program seemed fine as described. The number of credits requires participants to work across the three areas mentioned in the requirements. On one proposal there was a typo. The coversheet mentioned 17.5 credits but the curricular layout says 14. All three were approved, pending clarification of the differing numbers of credits.

So attest,

John Tamkun, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy