

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

March 10, 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, Deanna Shemek (Provost Rep), John Tamkun (Chair), Peter Young.

Absent: Matthew Palm (SUA Rep), Eileen Zurbriggen.

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

I. Announcements and updates.

Chair Tamkun reviewed the recent Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting for CEP. The March 4 demonstration was discussed. Campus members thought it was helpful that the UCSC information phone line gave clear information early in the day that the campus was basically closed by the demonstrators. All employees were encouraged not to come to campus due to the inability to drive in and security issues that arose. The entrances to campus were closed around 6:30 a.m. by demonstrators. An earlier Cruz Alert notice would have helped better with employee awareness.

This afternoon the forum on modernizing the Narrative Evaluation System will occur. CEP wonders whether there will be a student survey before a legislative revision is proposed.

SEC received an update on the Committee on Planning and Budget's (CPB) review of budget proposals. Their recommendations should be issued soon. CPB is assuming a 4.5 percent reduction in state funding but the cut could be as high as 11 percent. CPB is against across-the-board cuts. Their guiding principle is preservation of teaching and research. Chair Tamkun discussed curricular impact at SEC. He reminded them that it was getting to be too late to make significant changes for the coming catalog year.

Since the last CEP meeting, Chair Tamkun learned that, although there could be serious issues down the road, the Humanities Division is not presently talking about imminent, dramatic cuts in language course offerings.

The minutes from November 4 were accepted.

II. General Education topics.

A consent agenda of new general education (GE) proposals was approved. Only courses with agreement by the reviewers were placed on the consent agenda. Chair Tamkun will consider those for which there was not agreement to determine which issues should get on a committee

agenda versus those that may be resolved with more information from the sponsoring unit. For the time being, all courses will keep the old GE designations by default. At this point approximately one-third of the nearly 700 proposals has been reviewed by at least one member. Review assignments for the coming week were confirmed. Checklists were confirmed for review of the Perspectives in Environmental Awareness (PE-E) and Practice: Collaborative Endeavor (PR-E).

Disciplinary Communication (DC) consultant Carol Freeman indicated to Chair Tamkun that the DC proposals raised fairly few resource issues; the situation seems most problematic for Economics majors.

III. Sociology catalog program statement.

The Committee agreed that significant requests such as changes to degree requirements should come to full-committee meetings for consideration, and that smaller changes, such minor wording changes to catalog text, may have only subcommittee review.

The request to remove the cluster requirement from the Sociology BA was approved. Sociology has requested to change their GPA in the entrance courses from 3.0 to 3.3. It was reaffirmed that a campus definition of impactation needed to be confirmed before CEP would approve increases to the GPA for admission to majors. Concern was also expressed that this would be a precedent setting decision that should not be made without data.

A recent University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) white paper indicated that a degree is impacted when it does not have the resources to accommodate all of its qualified students. Once a program is determined to be impacted, there needs to be a policy for admission to the major. First, each program needs to define what is needed, at a minimum, for students to demonstrate that they are qualified for admission to a particular major. Because UC has not been allowed to reduce enrollments, UCSC must teach the same number of students with 20 percent less state funding or risk further cuts.

Since CEP decided that it cannot approve resource-based admission limits to majors, there was reason to ask for data in response to the request from Sociology. However, the Committee needs first to continue discussion of what data would be useful in order to be ready to consider such requests, once there is an agreed-upon definition for impactation. Chair Tamkun will draft a letter to major-sponsoring units regarding the Committee's current inability to approve resource-based requests to admit or disqualify students. CEP agreed that pedagogically based arguments may be approvable.

IV. Selectivity in admission of junior transfer students.

CEP decided to write to the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA) about their concerns related to a recent request to selectively admit junior transfer students. The Committee thinks that junior transfer students should not be held to a different standard from students admitted in their first year.

V. Physical Education proposal.

From the standpoint of educational policy, CEP did not object to the request submitted by the Office of Physical Education and Recreation Services (OPERS) to remove their course offerings from the general catalog. Athletic Adviser and Professor Gene Switkes also did not raise significant points of concern regarding the proposal. CEP will ask OPERS to keep in mind the cost to students and not increase fees to the point that they become inaccessible to students.

VII. Pre-consultation discussion.

CEP discussed talking points for next week's consultation with the Language Program co-chairs. If there is to be some scaling back of language courses, CEP would like to know what the program faculty would find to be acceptable and why. The Committee wondered whether the Language Program have considered the recommendation that basic language training be reduced from 6 to 5 courses.

Clarification is needed as to who are the Senate faculty to make curriculum decisions for the Language Program. It appears that there are three Senate faculty. Unless the program faculty have created bylaws or have received a formal augmentation to their Bylaw 55, it would seem that these three people make up the Senate Bylaw 55.A group. Chair Tamkun will confirm with VPDAAGalloway who are the voting faculty members.

CEP wanted to hear what criteria will be used to determine which language course offerings to protect. The Committee also wanted to know what are the language instruction needs of graduate students, and how undefined language degree requirements are being considered in the planning (such as the requirement for Economics majors), and which language courses serve as gateways to majors. If upper-division students are given preference for language courses, lower-division students may have issues with access to majors that have a language requirement prior to declaration (such as for the proposed Jewish Studies major). Also, if students must wait longer to take language courses, they are apt to lose some of the language skills they gained in high school in those languages.

VIII. Environmental Studies catalog program statement.

Discussion of Environmental Studies catalog requests were carried forward due to lack of time.

So attests,

John Tamkun, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy