

**Committee on Educational Policy**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2013**  
**Kerr Hall Room 307, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Present: Mark Anderson, Lora Bartlett, Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex-officio*), Olof Einarsdottir, Max Hufft (SUA Rep.), Tracy Larrabee (Chair), Ronnie Lipschutz (Provost Rep.), Kayla Oh (SUA Rep.), Stephen Sweat (NSTF Rep.), Ted Warburton, James Wilson, Susanna Wrangell (staff), Jim Zachos.

Absent: Michael McCawley (Director of Admissions).

Guests: Cher Bergeon (Academic Preceptor Designee), Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Richard Hughey (VPDUE), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer)

**I. Announcements**

Chair Larrabee updated members on this week's SEC meeting where the following topics were discussed: a proposed bylaw change for SEC's membership, budgets, international student recruitment and strategic planning for the campus. With regard to budget cuts, members are concerned about cleanliness of the workplace, especially in labs. UCSC will work on recruiting more international students next year. The Senate Office is working on a flow chart for committee and administrative roles with regards to transfer admissions. CAFA, CEP and Admissions need to have a communication process with regards to policies for transfers students; this information must come from CEP. Chair Larrabee updated members on Online Education as a high priority for the UC President, but there are many unanswered questions concerning support, costs, and quality. This Sunday, Tracy's Op Ed article will be in the Chronicle.

Members approved the consent agenda which included the following program statements:

Art Division: Digital Arts and New Media (DANM).

Engineering: None.

Humanities: Classical Studies with a recommendation to add a link to website, East Asian Studies, French, Greek, and Latin.

PBSci: Physical and Biological Sciences.

Social Sciences: Legal Studies.

The following letters were also on the consent agenda and are approved : CEP's responses to the Anthropology qualification to the major proposal and Physics request for online course criteria needing CEP approval.

**II. Anthropology Disciplinary Communication (DC) Change Request**

Continuing discussion from last week, some members did not like having a graduate course associated with completion of the Disciplinary Communication (DC) general education and major requirement. The ANTH 270 course would only satisfy the senior seminar or one half of the DC requirement. These undergraduates are not collaborating with other undergraduates but with graduate students. Undergraduates may benefit from this experience. The students are already taking ANTH 170 to fulfill the DC and both courses are taught concurrently. The department sees this as an opportunity for enrichment. Member Anderson recused himself before the determination. Members would like to know the guidelines faculty will use when accessing the students' abilities to be in the more challenging course; some students may want the challenge but could be overestimating their

abilities. CEP would like to know how many students would be taking the course, which is by invitation only. Members are in favor of approving as an exception rather than the norm, appropriate students with appropriate course content based on the students' ability.

### III. Economics Disciplinary Communication (DC) Change Request for Econ/Math Major

Continuing discussion from last week, members held a brief discussion and there was some confusion over comprehensive requirements for each department, Economics and Mathematics. Chair Larrabee moved this agenda item forward to February 20 so members could re-review. The program statement directs students to visit another section, instead of listing the required courses and this was confusing. Members need clarification on what the DC plan is for this major.

Some issues members should consider: ECON 194 is only listed under the comprehensive requirement, and is also a course that satisfies the DC for Economics but is not listed or fully integrated into the program major requirements. From the definition of a combined major, the departments need to work together to create a well-defined DC requirement, that satisfies this combined major. The program statement, with these additional course offerings, acts more like a double major, requiring the completion of both DC requirements from each major; for a combined major, the requirements for major completion have to be in only one department. The sponsoring departments agree on these course offering or offerings.

Here are the comprehensive requirements for ECON and Mathematics that all majors must complete:

Econ 100A, or 100M, 100B or 100N, and 113.

MATH 194 or 195

Here are the DC requirements for each major:

ECON 104 or 197 (if you picked the Econ)

DC Math 100, 194 or 195 (both are satisfied) with comprehensive requirement

For the major requirements there must be a comprehensive and DC course or courses to complete.

Here is the problem:

If ECON/MATH majors took MATH 195 for the DC, they would not meet the DC for ECON, but could satisfy both if the Economics Department added MATH 195 as well, the DC would be:

ECON 104 or 197 and Math 100 and 194 or 195.

### IV. Program Statement Review: Chemistry and Biochemistry Qualification Policy Request

CEP has received a request from the Chair of Chemistry and Biochemistry requesting the need to add a qualification policy to redirect students into appropriate majors. The department would like a GPA of 2.5 over 6 courses: Chemistry 1A, 1B, 1C, Math 22, and one of the following: MATH 11A or 11B, MATH 19A or 19B, AMS 15A or 15B. Before the final discussion and decision, Member Einarsdottir recused herself. After discussion, members were in agreement to approve after receiving justification from the department on the following concerns: GPA calculation should be rounded, removal of redundant language, appeals process, catalog rights issues, and organic chemistry for transfer students.

For the GPA calculation, CEP will recommend including one additional digit for the GPA cut-off, 2.50. the committee will recommend using the AIS uniform standard. W's, NP's and P's are not counted in the GPA. It appears from the PChem data, that this GPA will serve in the progress and performance of the students in the Chemistry and Biochemistry majors. CEP will point out that a fair number of students are below the GPA cutoff of 2.5, but obtained very good (B) or excellent (A)

grades in the two physical chemistry courses and were successful in the major. These students should be able to use the appeals process.

Department Appeals process: CEP will request consistent language adopted by last year's committee: *"Students who are informed that they are not eligible to declare the major may appeal this decision by submitting a letter to the department chair within 15 days from the date the notification was mailed. Within 15 days of receipt of the appeal, the department will notify the students, a college, and the Office of the Registrar of the decision."*

The department should consider these factors when students are denied admission to the major:

1. the number and difficulty of courses the student attempted during the first two years,
2. the student's overall progress towards completing major,
3. the student's overall academic trajectory, with perhaps more recent academic performance weighted more heavily, and
4. any extenuating factors (illness, disabilities, and any other challenges).

Policy Implementation: department wants this policy beginning in the Fall quarter of 2014, and that "all new declarations must satisfy the new requirements listed above. In addition, declaration by students who already achieved junior status or by transfer students after their second quarter must be done by petition." CEP will remind the department, that due to catalog rights, it is not possible to put a limit like this into place. Students admitted prior to Fall 2014 (and transfer students who have catalog rights for 2013/14 and prior catalog years) have the right to declare under whatever policies are in place for the catalog year they are following. However, CEP has determined that major DQ policies are also covered under catalog rights. If a student chooses a particular catalog year for fulfilling their major requirements, they are subject to all aspects of that catalog that relate to the major.

Transfer students: CEP appreciates that the proposed major declaration policy for students who enter UCSC as freshmen being consistent with the requirements of transfer students and recognizes that "native" Chemistry students typically take organic chemistry series in their second year, some community colleges do not offer a complete sequence of organic chemistry; because of this, it would be helpful to add language in ASSIST that advises students that if organic chemistry is not completed prior to transfer, it may take longer than two years to complete the major.

#### **V. Program Statement Review: Cognitive Sciences Qualification Policy Request**

The Psychology Department administers this major and is requesting an addition of PSYC 20A (requesting name change from PSYC 20) or 20B to their major qualification policy requirements. The 3.0 GPA is in the approved policy with the same four prerequisites: Math 11A, 19A, 20A, or AMS 11A, CMPE 13/L, 5C, 5J, 5P, or 12A); PSYC 2 or AMS 5 or 7/L and now the addition of PSYC 20A or 20B. CEP would like justification to support the higher threshold or give the department the option to use the AIS GPA standard for calculation. After discussion, members would like more information and clarification on the following suggestions and concerns:

1. For transfers, the department suggested that the new policy will be effective Fall 2017. CEP recommends that this language be deleted. We believe this language could be confusing to students, who can always refer to catalogue rights based on year of matriculation.

2. Because we find only two (2) CA Community Colleges with courses that articulate with PSYC 20A/B, we ask that you make accommodations for transfers by reserving seats in these courses.
  
3. We find the requirement of a B grade in PSYC 20A or 20B—above and beyond the 3.0 GPA for pre-requisites—to be an unusually high admissions policy for the major. We understand that this course content is foundational to the major. However, this threshold would seem to act as an unnecessary barrier and is not supported by data showing that students who attain a grade lower than a B are unable to complete satisfactorily the major requirements.

Analysis of AIS data for this major shows the percentage of graduates who met both the progress ( $\geq 1$  courses) and performance cutoffs ( $\geq 2.06$  GPA) cutoffs for List Courses to be 76.9%. The percentage of graduates who met both the progress ( $\geq 2$  courses) and performance cutoffs ( $\geq 2.36$  GPA) cutoffs for Subject Courses to be 76.9%.

#### **VI. Program Statement Review: BMB Changes to Qualification Policy**

The department is making a minor change in how students will satisfy their comprehensive requirement, students must take a comprehensive lab for a letter grade and are recommended as an option to complete a senior thesis, essay or GRE or MCAT tests. The labs are the priority and the program is strengthening the requirement. Members agreed it appears to be a good change and approved.

#### **VII. Major Qualification – moved to next agenda due to lack of time**

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