

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 29, 2014  
11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307**

Present: Ben Carson, Olof Einarsdottir, Tracy Larrabee (Chair), Ronnie Lipschutz (Provost Rep.), Michael Mateas, Roxi Power (NSTF Rep.), Mary Beth Pudup (UCEP Rep.), Tchad Sanger (Interim Registrar, *ex-officio*), Heather Shearer, Ted Warburton, Susanna Wrangell (staff).

Absent: Cher Bergeon (Academic Preceptor Designee), Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Michael McCawley (Director of Admissions), Vanessa Morales (SUA Rep.), Kayla Oh (SUA Rep.).

Guests: Richard Hughey (VPDUE), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer).

**I. Announcements and Updates:**

Chair Larrabee briefly went over the Confidentiality Statement with members and guests on committee business. The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) had a short meeting this week on graduate enrollments and funding models.

Chair Larrabee informed members about a proposal on enrollment changes for incoming native and possibly international students for summer session.

The Student Success Team will be meeting this week and the CEP representative will update members on the meeting outcome next week.

BOARS Update: The Senate will respond to the request for justification on reduced enrollments in transfer student admissions this fall. CEP members will have a discussion in the future about the possibility of direct admits for students or creating a policy that includes uniform treatment of students in all departments for admission into majors.

All Items were pulled from the Consent Agenda for Discussion:

**Program Statements Approved:**

Humanities: CRES, Russian

Engineering: Applied Mathematics & Statistics

Office of Physical Education & Recreation Services

The letters for the MCD Biology Department Supplemental Questions for the ERC and TM External Review will be updated after members have a chance to read the undergraduate student survey responses.

**II. Honors Program Discussion and Priority Enrollment Policy**

Members from the Honors sub-committee updated CEP members on their request to offer first year Honors students priority enrollment. Members agreed to offer priority enrollment for first year Honors students and sub- committee members will report back to CAFA so letters of intent can be sent out.

### **III. Biomolecular Engineering Program Statement**

BME is one of the eight departments whose admission policy is expiring and all members reviewed the program statement. Members will ask for justification and corrections for the following:

- Qualification to the Major Policy: must be the AIS GPA standard over a number of foundation courses (determined by the department) based on past success in the major
- Transfer student section needs specific courses listed or equivalents
- Stakeholder confirmation from EEB Biology Department for BIOE 20, and the Chemistry & Biochemistry Department for CHEM 108B.
- Based on study plans students cannot declare before the 6 quarter major declaration deadline
- The Honors section sample revision: “Students with a GPA of 3.7 receive highest honors. A student meeting the GPA requirement for highest honors may not receive honors if a student has been found guilty of academic misconduct.”

### **IV. Electrical Engineering**

EE is one of the eight departments that needs to submit justification, please read over the department's submission. Transfer course section is not listed, not consistent with SOE statement about Letter grade policy for all major courses to declare a major, allows 2 passes must be consistent.

EE 80T is a required course for graduation, approved and required by ABET certification. Seniors in the past have been taking this late in their career, the department is now changing for the course to be taken sooner by adding a pre-requisite. A gateway course should predict how a student will do in the major later on, not just as an general education requirement, unless 80T does statistically prove students were successful in the major. When would a transfer student take 80T, it does not currently articulate. EE 101 circuits course (could be a prerequisite for 80T).

CEP recommendation:

Pull 80T out of qualification, but keep it in the major. After sophomore year completion then they can declare. Point out that students may be delayed. Use the BENG letter as a reference for justification for a policy.

### **V. Interim Report for Recently Approved Academic Program: Cognitive Science B.S.**

At the request of the VPAA, members reviewed the Cognitive Science B.S., now in its third year. Members held a discussion and support the Linguistics' Department assessment and have no additional comments to add for the future external review committee.

### **VI. External Reviews**

Technology Management Department (TM)

Members reviewed the draft response letter and made additions , corrections and grammatical changes. Chair Larrabee will create a new draft for approval at next week's meeting.

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Department (EEB)

Members will review and approve the final draft of questions at next week's meeting.

- What has been the effect of increased student enrollments on the delivery and quality of the undergraduate curriculum? The last ERC committee was unable to evaluate the quality of undergraduate teaching and learning because of insufficient assessment data.
- Has there been a decline in the advising and retention of the EEB majors with the establishment of the Divisional advising and, if so, how can the department increase the effectiveness of its advising?

- What is the effectiveness of the joint administration of the General Biology major by EEB and MCDB. Are there more opportunities for EEB and MCDB to work in concert? For example, would it be useful for the EEB and MCDB departments to consult on potential coordination of a single transfer requirement for any Biology major to help streamline the process and deny fewer students' admission to UCSC?
- The previous review committee was concerned about high attrition rate of EEB undergraduate majors. Please evaluate if this is still an issue, and if so, how EEB might improve retention.
- Are there any signs that the new qualification procedure has had a positive effect on student retention?
- How has the elimination of the introductory biology lab courses affected the quality of the education of EEB (and MCDB) undergraduates?

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