

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
MINUTES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018  
11 am-1:30 p.m., Kerr Hall, Room 307

Present: Noriko Aso (CCI Chair, *ex-officio*), Jeff Bury, Ben Carson (Provost Rep.) Patrick Chuang, Joy Hagen (NTSF Rep.), Suresh Lodha, Onuttom Narayan, (Chair), Francis Nimmo, Tchad Sanger (Registrar, *ex-officio*), Tonya Ritola on phone, Megan Thomas on phone, Kim Van Le (Senate Analyst), Lauren Woo (SUA Rep.), Susanna Wrangell (Senate Analyst), Jessica Xu (SUA Rep.) on phone.

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Absent: None

Guest: Associate Registrar Claxton, Kalin McGraw Preceptor Representative

### **I. Environmental Sciences B.S. Proposal**

VPAA Lee has requested review of the revised ESCI program statement and the decanal letters requested by CEP. Members Chaung and Nimmo were recused before the meeting discussion and final decision. The Microbiology and Environmental Toxicology Department has stated that it is unable to host courses for the major at this time. ENVS 25 is still a concern, but if enrollments in the course increase as much as anticipated because of the new major, the Physical and Biological Sciences Division will fund the requested TAs for the first few years. Thereafter, following the standard campus formula, the Social Sciences(SS) Division will receive the funding, and would be able to cover the cost. If the SS Division does not step in, then the course will be dropped from the major in the future.

Discussion:

Members approved with a possible future change to major requirements.

### **II. Announcements & Members Items**

*Consent Agenda: all items were approved*

- CEP to VPAA re BSOE reshaping proposal
- CEP to CMPE Chair on MQP
- CEP to Departments on ALC Curriculum (approved with minor changes)

Pulled off the consent agenda for discussion: outreach to departments concerning grading policies. After discussion, it was decided that this letter will be edited for tone and sent out.

### **III. College Scholars Program with Director O'Hara**

Members reviewed the report prepared by the joint CAFA-CEP subcommittee in preparation for our consultation with Director O'Hara. Director O'Hara was very supportive of the content of the report which supported expanding the program to more colleges, soliciting student experiences via survey, and providing space and resources for the program. The First year Honors program has been expanded with the Challenge program that students can become a part of after entering UCSC. Admissions and CAFA work on recruiting for this program and have now created a unified Honors/Challenge program, renamed College Scholars to balance the issue

of equity for students who enter UCSC and would like to be a part of this program. Director O'Hara agreed with expanding the program, sending out a survey; and stressed the need for a designated meeting place. CEP will engage with CAFA on expanding enrollments among other colleges, survey student participants, request more stable funding and assigned space at certain times each week for students in the program to meet. CEP will look at College Scholar/Honors Programs across the country and follow up further in the Fall.

#### **IV. "Withdraw" Grade Option Requests**

The committee continued the discussion on withdrawal grades for the creation of an updated policy. The policy as it stands now allows students unlimited Ws, until the sixth week of a quarter at their choosing, and thereafter based on medical or other catastrophic life events.

##### Discussion:

- How many self-selected W grades should be given during the student's career?

The Committee decided that the self-selected "W" deadline should be extended from week 6 to week 9

##### Conditions to be determined:

- Up to week 9 students can choose to withdraw. During week 10 or week 11 (and thereafter, retroactively) students can only withdraw based on extenuating circumstances
- If a student withdraws from the quarter (3 Ws) there are re-enrollment and financial aid ramifications.
- Based on the data set, is it reasonable to limit self-selected ("free") Ws to 4?
- Should we set conditions on (unlimited) emergency W's? For example, what is an emergency, and how retroactive can they be?
- Should a student with three W's in a term be encouraged/required to withdraw from the term?
- The WX notation (for emergencies) would live in the student's record but only appear as a W on the transcript.

##### Summary: W Guidelines

- Free Ws up to 9 week: 5 for frosh, 3 for transfer. Request form must specify the reason for the W, even though approval will not be needed.
- Withdraw from quarter: the grades are not recorded on the transcript. Implications must be discussed
- Medical/Emergency: these must be kept track of separately, because they do not count toward "free Ws"

**V. Strategic Academic Plan: Internal Campus Barriers**

AVPAA Martin Berger has provided a list of internal campus barriers identified by the campus as part of the SAP process and is requesting the Senate to prioritize by identifying the 15 top-tier and 15 second-tier barriers from the total fifty-three barriers. Members reviewed and selected the top 15 barriers, which are in the following areas:

Funding/Grant/Financial:

Pressure to increase funding/resources to Graduate education

Research Process

Lack of guidelines for interdisciplinary efforts

Teaching and Services

Inequalities in teaching loads across Divisions

**VI. Three Year Review: Sustainability Program Minor**

VPAA Lee has requested review for the three year interim report for Rachel Carson College's Sustainability Minor. The College Provost is requesting a TA allocation for the large enrollment lecture courses. Colleges are not part of the TA budget allocation, which only funds academic divisions. CEP is supportive as long as the central administration can fund these without changing the divisional allocation formula.