

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES

May 13, 2020

10:40 a.m.-1:10 p.m.

via Zoom re COVID 19 Campus Closure

Present: Douglas Bonett, Manel Campus, Provost Representative, Marlena De Castro (SUA Student Representative), Kate Edmunds, Joy Hagen (NSTF Representative), Lindsay Hinck (CCI Chair, ex officio), Rebecca Hurdis (Senate Analyst), Dongwook Lee, Ronnie Lipschutz, Pradip Mascharak, Richard Montgomery, Onuttom Narayan (Chair), Tonya Ritola WouldGo, Tchad Sanger (University Registrar, ex-officio), Matt Wagers.

Guests: Deputy Registrar Margie Claxton, Associate Registrar Kalin McGraw, Preceptor's Representative Winnie Tang

I. Consent Agenda

The following were approved:

- 05/06/20 Minutes
- Letters:
 - CEP to VPAA re Neurosciences B.S.
 - CEP to VPAA re EDJ B.A. Proposal
 - CEP to VPAA re Black Studies Minor
 - CEP to Faculty Group re Grading Policy

Action: Correspondence to be sent out.

II. History of Consciousness Minor

The committee reviewed the responses from the department chair, the dean and the VPAA regarding the History of Consciousness minor. The committee determined that courses scheduled for 2020-21 are able to continue. CCI is leading an effort to better regulate the use of GSIs in undergraduate courses, and this may end up constraining the use of GSIs in the future.

The department's use of GSIs has increased since the minor was approved in 2015-16, and now more than 25% of upper division courses are taught by GSIs. In 2020-21, 100% of all undergraduate courses will be taught by GSIs. CEP reaffirmed its decision to suspend the minor in these circumstances. If the department is able to come up with a plan that has 75% of upper division courses being taught by non-GSI instructors, the suspension will be revoked.

Action: Correspondence to be sent to the VPAA.

III. Course Sponsoring Agencies and Instructors

The committee discussed a question posed by Academic Senate Chair Lau to CCI that was forwarded to CEP regarding who is able to sponsor courses. Referencing Senate regulations and Regents' Standing Orders, the committee concluded that course sponsoring agencies must be divisions, colleges, departments or academic programs. CCI does not have the detailed disciplinary expertise in every field

that would be needed if it were to be the sole mechanism maintaining the standard of courses. Instructors have to be appointed to the appropriate instructional titles when they teach.

Members discussed the desirability of ensuring that the people who are actually teaching courses and the organizations that are arranging them be properly acknowledged and provided credit. Instead of independent studies, such courses could be formalized as regular courses and sponsored by a college. A collection of such courses can be used to propose a Minor.

Action: Correspondence to be sent Academic Senate chair.

IV. Priority Enrollment for Employees Who Are Students

The committee discussed a request from the University Registrar about extending priority enrollment for undergraduate students who are also UC Santa Cruz staff employees. Members discussed if this was equitable given that many undergraduate students also work outside of the university and need to make accommodation to balance the responsibilities of school and work. The number of University employees who are also undergraduate students is very low and for many of the staff who have not finished their undergraduate degrees, this could be an additional benefit. The committee voted to extend priority enrollment to University employees.

Action: Correspondence to be sent to the University Registrar

V. Physics Senior Thesis Requirement

The committee reviewed the correspondence from the Physics department regarding their Senior Thesis requirement. The committee discussed and approved their proposal to allow students to complete either PHYS 182 or PHYS 195AB to satisfy both the Disciplinary Communicate (DC) Requirement, as this approach will help improve students' time to degree.

However, members expressed concern about the removal of PHYS 182 as a requirement for all majors because the completion of a senior thesis may not sufficiently provide students with the same preparation for disciplinary communication as PHYS 182. Thus, the committee recommends that 195A and 195B be offered as five-unit courses in order to allow for the DC training students will not receive as a result of taking PHYS 182.

Action: Correspondence to be sent to the Physics chair.

VI. P Grades for Remote Instruction Summer and Fall 2020.

Similar to Spring 2020, the committee approved extending the exclusion of summer 2020 courses from the percent P/NP graduation requirement. This exclusion is extended to fall 2020 if the campus is only able to offer remote instruction.