

Committee on Preparatory Education
Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2009
1-2:30 p.m., Kerr Hall Room 129

Present: Nandini Bhattacharya (NSTF Rep), Mary-Kay Gamel (Chair), Roxanne Monnet (Staff), Raquel Prado, David Smith.

Absent: Sarah-Hope Parmeter (ELWR Coordinator).

I. Introductions, announcements, and updates.

The Committee on Preparatory Education (CPE) was apprised the actions that occurred at the fall quarter Senate Meetings and the mail ballot that has been called for on the Resolutions that passed at the October 19 Special Meeting.

II. Committee charge.

The Committee charge was reviewed for new members.

III. Confidentiality and recusals.

CPE discussed confidentiality and recusals in committee practices. The Committee was reminded that their minutes are posted on the Senate's public web site after they are accepted in a CPE meeting.

IV. Proposed changes to program/degree development process.

CPE decided not to formally respond to the proposed changes to the program and degree development process submitted to the Senate for review by Academic Vice Provost and Dean of Academic Affairs Alison Galloway for comment.

V. Chair meeting with VPDUE Ladusaw.

Chair Gamel reviewed her recent discussion with Vice Provide and Dean for Undergraduate Education (VPDUE) Bill Ladusaw.

VPDUE Ladusaw apprised her on the status of Math 2. Over the summer it was proposed that UCSC discontinue offering Math 2 for budgetary reasons. Math 2 is not required for any degree program at UCSC. However, hundreds of students need the course as preparation for Math 3. In response to faculty responses that it would be too problematic to cancel Math 2 for 2009-10, giving the need to prepare students for Math 3, it was decided that Math 2 would be offered during the current academic year. Continued discussion of whether to maintain this course or identify alternatives for math preparation will occur during this academic year.

CPE raised the question of educational equity and support for students who were deemed to have met the admissions criteria for UC but do not test into Math 3. CPE hopes that the result will not be that students must incur the cost of taking courses elsewhere.

Research done by Learning Support Services (LSS) suggests that EOP students who pass Math 2 with Cs are not passing Math 3 at the same rate as EOP students who did better in Math 2.

Members will receive syllabi from AMS 2, 3, and 5, and Math 2, 3, and 4 to consider before the next CPE meeting.

VPDUE Ladusaw also raised the topic of courses Writing 20 and 21. He would like to discuss a trial run of dropping WRIT 21. These courses are taken by students needing to satisfy their ELWR requirement. VPDUE Ladusaw's thinking is that students who do not satisfy ELWR after WRIT 20 may need to take a community college course or an on-line course to prepare them to satisfy ELWR. CPE wonders whether there has been an effectiveness study of these writing courses.

CPE was reminded that a past committee asked that the Santa Cruz Regulation (SCR) 10.5.2 be enforced. SCR 10.5.2 says that "Entering students who have not satisfied the requirement in one of the above ways must enroll in an Entry Level Writing section of Composition 1 in their first term of residence; pending satisfactory passage of the requirement, continued enrollment in an Entry Level Writing course is mandatory. Satisfaction of the Entry Level Writing Requirement is a prerequisite for receiving credit in Composition 1, enrollment in every other university-level undergraduate course in English composition and for the Bachelor's degree." The language of this Regulation suggests that UCSC needs to offer the courses of change the Regulation.

CPE decided that this important topic warrants a special meeting during fall finals week in order to have Entry-Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) Coordinator Sarah-Hope Parmeter apprise the Committee on ELWR topics.

VI. Topics for the year and member items.

CPE will follow up on the letter send to Learning Support Services on whether the academic success of Bridge Program students has been tracked as a subset of EOP students, considering their academic success when compared with other EOP students.

So attests,

Mary-Kay Gamel, Chair
Committee on Preparatory Education