

**Committee on Preparatory Education Meeting  
Minutes  
May 27, 2015  
Kerr Hall Room 129, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

Present: Gabriel Elkaim (Chair), Phil Longo (NSTF Rep.), Abe Stone, Susanna Wrangell (staff).

Absent: Kimberly Helmer, Sarah-Hope Parmeter (ELWR Coordinator).

**I. Announcements:**

Minutes for April 8, 2015 were approved.

**II. Mathematics Update on Implementation of ALEKS PPL**

The Mathematics Department Chair sent an informational memo to the several senate committees on adopting ALEKS as a placement tool in place of the online mathematics placement exam. Members reviewed the website under development by the Undergraduate Curriculum Chair, Professor Debra Lewis and found the website helpful for student success. CPE will not be sending a response and will apprise the Mathematics Department.

**III. Crown 79 Follow Up Report on Experiment**

The Crown Provost submitted the report for the Crown 79 course experiment. The course was experimental and designed to delay Core by one quarter. The students took Writing 20 in fall and then Core in Winter quarter. Members reviewed the report and while the findings appear to be positive the results are a bit skewed. Crown 79 was a large 2-unit lecture course, it had no sections and no writing component and was successful for most students who took this course concurrently while also taking Core. Students who did not take Writing 20 concurrently with Crown 79 struggled in Core due to the thematic interpretation need to write on the topics for Core. The Provost has addressed this issue in the revision by adding writing groups.

CPE concurs with CEP that introductory undergraduate writing should be separated from Core. Having the students take the course in the Winter makes sense as the students are now settled into college life, but the results indicate that it was not only delaying the taking of Core but taking Core with Writing 20 concurrently that increased the pass rate for ELWR satisfaction (after enrolling in Crown 79 fall quarter and passing). This result does not serve for the ELWR satisfied students waiting for a more advanced writing course. Students who were ELWR satisfied and did not take Crown 79 or Writing 20 in fall quarter did not write as well in 80B as the cohort who did. The Crown model is needed and important with the multilingual cohort currently on campus and those entering in the upcoming summer and fall quarters. CPE recommends the experimentation continue, and would like to have a report from next year's course offering. CPE strongly recommends Provosts address the needs for unsatisfied ELWR students for success in introductory writing. Honors students found Writing 20 to be beneficial while others found it to be boring. CPE would prefer to see Core moved to Winter quarter, offer a range of writing courses, with both C1 and Core components, modify the course to address ELWR satisfaction and include peer grading. Without adding a supplemental course our international students' needs for writing in English or acculturation to U.S. culture are not being addressed.

#### **IV. Annual Report**

Members will review the draft based on the following issues we covered this year and comment via email and google docs..

- *ALEKS for the Mathematics Placement Exam*
- *Multilingual Proposal*
- *Reviewed VPDUE's report on international student progress with writing*
- *Crown 79 results report*
- *Summer Session Academy curriculum for international students*

**Committee on Preparatory Education, 2014 -15**