EPAG Minutes
November 11, 2010
11:30 to 1:00
Campus Center 214

Kendrick Brown, Terri Fishel, Janet Folina, Gerbrand Hoogvliet, Taren Kingser, Terry Krier, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Patrick Schmidt, Chad Topaz, Tom Varberg (Chair)

1. Approval of the minutes - approved as circulated
2. Announcements
   a. FACT proposal deadline has now passed and we will review proposals in two weeks. Tom will post proposals to the Moodle site. We will discuss any cost limitations when we discuss the proposals.
   b. JBD has been reserved for the town hall meeting on discontinuance on Feb. 15th at 11:30-1:00.
   c. Tom talked with Brooke Lea about linguistics and shared that they are proposing to move to a single major instead of having two tracks.
   d. Tom talked with Ruthann Godollei about the Art and Art History review. Tom labeled it a positive conversation. Ruthann stated that the limitations of the physical spaces make it difficult to increase class sizes. It was pointed out that they don’t meet the cap for the class sizes currently. While lower level studio courses are taught by tenured faculty, even though Drawing I is a requirement to all art courses, the suggestion that tenured faculty teach Drawing I was not considered a good idea despite the outside review recommendation.
   e. Tom checked with Gerbrand and Taren regarding this same schedule for the spring - 11:30 to 1 on Thurs. and both agreed this would work for their schedules.
   f. Allocations call needs to go out. Tom will look at last year’s allocation letter and circulate.
   g. Tom replied to the concentration proposal for international development. Brooke Lea is working on a proposal for cognitive science concentration, and there is a possibility of a critical theory as well as a comparative literature proposal. Tom will make sure the proposals address criteria.
   h. Humanities, Media, and Cultural Studies have submitted a proposal with a revision to the major plan along with their name change. We need to discuss before Leola leaves on sabbatical.
   i. Study Away approval of programs. We haven’t developed procedures, so we need to look at how we determine whether to approve programs. Maastricht program has been reduced to a semester instead of a year-long program, although there was a question whether the Maastricht program has been moved to the Hague. Revision for London Global Cities has to come to EPAG, but first it has to have faculty input.
   j. We currently have five responses to the procedure for discontinuing a department proposal.

3. CDP proposals. We received 7 proposals and we reviewed each proposal. Concerns were raised about individual proposals that read as allocations requests. Several proposals were revisions from last year. Concerns were raised that the arts and humanities were under-represented. Another concern was the fact that several proposals included references to other disciplines and departments, but there didn’t seem to be communication between the various departments. The question was raised as to whether any of these proposals added to our distinctiveness. For example, is Macalester known for our courses in public health? Are we
known for our faculty-student research collaboration? Another question was raised about student interest. Did any of these proposals come about as a result of student interest? The question of limited resources was raised and whether this was the time to expand the CDP. There was no clear consensus or substantial enthusiasm for any of the 7 proposals, but we agreed to reflect and consider if any of the features such as faculty-student research or public health, should be included in the CDP. It was suggested that instead of faculty-student collaboration, maybe we should use mentoring. It was mentioned that our main web page promotes the faculty-student research emphasis, so is it necessary to include in the CDP? All faculty hires are also advised about the strong emphasis on faculty-student research. Discussion concluded as we had reached the end of the meeting time.

Next meeting – December 2. FACT proposals will be discussed.