

EPAG Minutes

September 20, 2012

3:00- 4:00 Campus Center

Zach Avre, Holly Barcus, Kendrick Brown, Janet Folina, Ezequiel Jimenez Martinez, Ann Minnick, Kathy Murray, Jayne Niemi, Sonita Sarker (Chair), Jaine Strauss, Chad Topaz, Joelle Vitiello, Harry Waters Jr.

1. Approval of minutes: The only change was the correction to Zach's name. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as corrected.
2. Sonita reminded us (mostly for Zach's benefit as our newest member) about EPAG's principles of confidentiality, consensus and transparency.
3. Google calendar check: We reviewed upcoming events. Eleven focus groups (aka listening sessions) about writing are now set up, and begin on September 28th. For EPAG's representation, Chad will attend the first one, and Harry will do the second one. They will take place at the Serie Center.
4. A draft of the response to the economics department was displayed on screen. We reviewed it made suggestions. Sonita will make the corrections and send it to the department.
5. Strategic planning for faculty allocations: We brainstormed about how we would request a "vision" from departments, as opposed to an allocation request. We tried to dredge up the history of this type of request in its various forms, such as the Joint Task Force that preceded the capital campaign the CDP, the 2 year-out allocation request, and the multi-year staffing plan. We want to talk about this effort as focusing on the curriculum, not specifically allocations. That increases the possibilities for flexibility and experimentation. To whom does the request go? Department chairs and program directors? All faculty? For a forward-looking curriculum, we are potentially seeking collaboration, multi-disciplinarity, inter-disciplinarity, innovation within disciplines, and innovation across the board. Is this like a department review outside of the ten-year time frame? One concrete goal is to support the mission statement of the college, another is to plan ahead for impending retirements. We talked about the timeline for this, especially regarding the allocation process. We thought that the call should go out in October, with submissions due mid-Feb or March. This is not expected to be annual process. The question of whether it is required still remains unanswered, although we struggle to imagine why an area would not submit a response. We returned to the question of what kind of information we are looking for, and how will we use it. We reminded ourselves that the allocations process is particularly opportunistic, and the original impetus was to reduce that factor. So our job might be to read them all, synthesize into a document that factors into allocations decisions and possible discretionary decisions of the Provost.
6. Rankings of our other potential business: We reviewed the list of projects. Kendrick presented his request for a task force about the second language proficiency requirement and its assessment. We note that this is good point in time for assessment of that requirement. We should add a sentence that asks to be explicit about what "second language" is intended to

mean. This task force could start now if we can decide on the composition of the committee. Joelle volunteered to chair the task force. We returned to the main task list. Chad will share his info about class size. Jayne will find the data on instructional days. Next week, Jayne will have the course change request.

Adjourned at 4:32

Respectfully submitted by

Jayne Niemi, Registrar