

EPAG Minutes
October 4, 2012
3:00-4:30 Markim 201

Zach Avre, Holly Barcus, Kendrick Brown, Terri Fishel, Janet Folina, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Sonita Sarker (Chair), Jaine Strauss, Chad Topaz, Joelle Vitiello

1. Approval of minutes: The minutes from last week were approved as corrected. (Corrected number of courses offered, and added a sentence to section 4 about having appropriate info added into the call for allocations.)
2. Writing focus groups : two of these have occurred so far. Chad and Holly reported on the groups they attended. We thought that it might be useful for Adrienne to ask about what we want for particular majors, and what we want for all graduates to have. Sonita will pass that on. We discussed what is being collected for all the sessions, and how we will receive some sort of summary. We also discussed whether every faculty member on EPAG should have to go to a session as an EPAG rep in addition to their session as a faculty member. Janet and Jaine are representing EPAG on the 16th and 23rd of this month.
3. Questions for Department/Program Reviews: Do we have any additional questions or modifications to the three questions that are stipulated in the handbook? Should the question quite frequently asked by recent EPAGs : “ *How do the department's learning goals and curriculum compare to those at peer liberal arts colleges? Are there new directions the department should be considering?*” be added as a 4th question? We agree that it should be added. Kendrick will change the handbook language and add this fourth question to materials being sent out tomorrow.
4. German Department Review: We discussed the issues discussed in the self-study. We decided to add questions about technology in the field as it relates to Mac's department and curriculum. We also added a question about the study away program, since the department discussed it at length in the self-study but did not pose a particular question. Sonita will pass the refined questions to Kendrick so he can get the letter out on Friday.
5. Sonita requested input from the group about what to present at the faculty meeting. Reminders would be helpful about the FACT applications, and the survey coming from the QT group (for Q teachers). She will also report that EPAG members continue to attend Writing focus groups in addition to doing department and concentration reviews, and other regular business, that “SARC plus” was convened, the language task force is being formed and chaired by Joelle, and that we are brainstorming about strategic curricular planning possibilities.
6. English department review and response: Sonita recused herself from the discussions as she did last spring, due to her affiliation with the department. Janet agreed to take notes and author the letter. We discussed some items and will need to return to this discussion at our next meeting.

Adjourned at 4:30

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Niemi, Registrar