

EPAG Minutes

April 4, 2013

3:00 - 4:30 Campus Center

Present: Zach Avre, Holly Barcus, Kendrick Brown, Terri Fishel, Kathy Murray, Jayne Niemi, Sonita Sarker (Chair), Jaine Strauss, Chad Topaz, Joelle Vitiello

1. Approval of Minutes - approved as distributed.
2. Curricular Vision Document for faculty meeting. We reviewed a document that was projected and made some additional comments. This document will be projected and shared at the faculty meeting. The next steps include an invitation to departments to submit next year with a mid-February deadline. The summary document will be shared with the strategic planning group as well.
3. QT requirement for faculty meeting – Sonita shared an outline of points including the fact that students had provided input as well. The points will include the goals, that this is a work in progress with yearly discussions. Following upon the timeline/process, and feedback from faculty and students, EPAG approves the changes in their aim to lend clarity and precision to the frameworks. EPAG recommends to GERC that it revisit the question of "amount of time spent" as a potential criteria in evaluating courses submitting for this requirement in the future.
4. Zach arrived at 3:25 and we stopped temporarily to acknowledge his recent award. Kathy was pleased to announce that Zach had been selected as a Truman Scholar.
5. Faculty Handbook Changes - Reviewed handbook language regarding number of credits required for majors and agreed this was not a "minor change." It was suggested that all examples in the handbook be removed and only included in the Chair's Handbook. This will require a motion at the May meeting for faculty to approve this language change to replace current language:
Changes should be submitted to Registrar and will be approved by EPAG.

Motion: Changes to existing departments and programs that appear in the College Catalog must be submitted to the Registrar for approval by EPAG.

RATIONALE:

Brings the process into alignment with course change approval.
Eliminates ambiguities about minor and significant changes.

This will be finalized next week at the EPAG meeting and then submitted for the May faculty meeting.

6. USM requirement open forum - as preparation for any discussion at a faculty meeting there will be an open forum provided for faculty feedback. The forum will include the language from the GERC report. Sonita projected a document she would share for the open forum. Open forum will be open for one week. We had a brief discussion about clarifying language within the recommendation related to interactions and critical thinking. Depending on the response to the open forum, it will be determined if this will be brought to the May faculty meeting for approval.
7. We had a brief discussion about an issue related to making an exception on transfer

credits, but tabled the discussion until Ann could be present.

Meeting adjourned 4:20

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director