

## EPAG Minutes

April 3, 2014

Campus Center 214 - 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Present: June Ban, Terry Boychuk, Merita Mushi, Ernesto Capello, Terri Fishel, Susan Fox, Geoffrey Gorham, Ann Minnick, Kathy Murray, Jaine Strauss, Joelle Vitiello (Chair), Harry Waters, Jr.

### Agenda

- 1) Approval of Minutes of March 27, 2014 - minutes approved.
  
- 2) Discussion of Writing/FYC Requirements in anticipation of April 8 meeting - June, Merita, Ann, and Joëlle reported on their MCSG meeting: students were welcoming and "so excited" about having this motion pass. When Joëlle introduces the motion, she will include mention that students support this motion and consider it a mark of distinction that writing is more strongly supported at Macalester. There was unanimous support from the students present for the MCSG meeting and we think it is an important message for faculty. We discussed potential amendments that may be proposed. The Faculty Learning Community who spent a year studying the issue will be present and Joelle will share the list of conversations that have taken place over the past academic year with Scott Legge.
  
- 4) Classics response to external review report in connection to classics changes in the major - Discussed revision of catalog copy submitted by Classics. It was suggested that the number of overlapping courses between MESIC and Classics should be limited. It was then decided that we put this discussion aside and do response to review after allocations.
  
- 5) Internationalism General Education Requirement: report on Friday March 28 CST - It was proposed that EPAG bring the motion for the May meeting. We need a list of courses that have the internationalism designation now and how many we might lose. Jayne can create a list of the past two years and Joelle will send out a survey to the faculty members for those courses. 29 faculty members attended the Friday discussion (March 28) and the concerns expressed were primarily by faculty in "areas studies". EPAG discussed the terms used including "transnational perspectives", "systems", and "dynamics." It was felt that there is a need to be aware of connotations certain terms have within various disciplines and departments. In terms of next steps, Ernie is going to review and make suggestions for alternative language. The survey of courses may determine how quickly this motion can be presented. Joëlle will do the survey, then there will be a town hall, and a meeting with MCSG and students. This motion may be introduced next fall depending on the timing for the survey.
  
- 6) MESIC changes in the concentration - Jayne has not had time to review yet. While this may be a response to a specific request EPAG made, there may be a need to request the rationale and explanation.

7) Review of MSCS Data Science Minor Response - Although supportive of the request, there is concern about resources. Kathy has a meeting with MCSS to talk about resource before we discuss further. Postponed further discussion until April 24th.

8) Labs for languages do not have classroom space - This is concern for fall 2014 and we need more information in order to determine the complete nature of the problem.

Meeting adjourned 4:25

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director