

EPAG Minutes

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Noon-1:30 Campus Center 214

Present: Holly Barcus, Terri Fishel, Janet Folina, Kate Hamilton, James Heyman, Ann Minnick, Yeukai Mudzi, Kathy Murray, Sonita Sarker, Patrick Schmidt (Chair), Harry Waters Jr.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of the 15 February 2012 Meeting** – Minutes were approved with one sentence to be edited.
2. **Email message regarding Arabic instruction** – Members of EPAG received an email in the past week that bears on a personnel decision recently made. We discussed this briefly and noted that the Provost remains committed to the Arabic program.
3. **Review and Response to Geology External Review and Department's Response Letter** – Discussion on response letter to be composed by Patrick focused on positive aspects of the review:
 - Collaboration across departments
 - Working with and training students for research
 - Rising number of majors over the past few years
 - Travel with students

Additional issues:

- Encourage them to map their courses to share what will be taught since every course is not offered every year
- Agree with their decision to not pursue tracks
- Acknowledge their work with 100 level courses that appeal to non-majors
- Address JTerm issue
- Encourage efforts on equitable issues of advising and managing honor's projects

Patrick will compose the letter and share with the group for review and discussion at our next meeting.

4. **Continued Discussion of Writing General Education Requirement** – Kendrick, Ann, and Patrick will be presenting a report to Board of Trustees. Discussion focused on the fact that writing is just one of the four general education requirements. The action we take on this requirement will set a pattern for the next three (**Q, I, M**) which will be issuing reports in this sequence: **Q** report will be done at end of this semester and come to EPAG in fall 2012, **M** report in the spring of 2013, **I** will be spring of 2014. After discussion it was agreed that we need to move forward. The report prepared by GERC will be shared with faculty for discussion at the April faculty meeting. An explanation of the work that is underway will help frame the discussion. The discussion will help assess the general view regarding potential for rewording the **W** requirement.
5. Next week is the last meeting before we begin about a month of work on allocations. Patrick summarized the agenda for the next meeting.

Adjourned at 1:33

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director