

EPAG Minutes

February 14, 2013

3:00-4:30 Campus Center

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

1. Approval of minutes: The minutes from February 7th were approved after some clarifying words were added.
2. Update on emeriti voting motion: Sonita shared the email she sent on behalf of EPAG to Tom Varberg. In it, she indicated our endorsement and cited the issues we discussed at our last meeting.
3. Curricular Visioning documents: Eleven have been received so far.
4. We reviewed the assignments for the Board of Trustees meeting. There was some trading of assignments, and everyone promised to notify Cynthia Hendricks of the changes.
5. Hispanic Studies review: We brainstormed and crafted questions to send as part of the reviewers packet. We asked Kendrick to clarify in the cover letter what the relationship of Hispanic Studies is to Latin American Studies. During this discussion we covered such topics as the four areas requirement of the major; the relationship between enrollments and eventually declared majors; the place of Portuguese and Lusophone studies in the department; study away programs, non-tenure-track staff; and civic engagement. As usual with reviews, we asked about the broader structure of the department and “what can you do with what you’ve got?”. We worked on our questions and gave them to Kendrick.
6. MESIC: We reviewed what we discussed at our last meeting. Although the number of graduates seems low, the number of declared concentrators is on a steady climb. We talked about ways to be more visible as an entity and that there seems to be a good supply of courses. We wonder why no language courses (such as Arabic) may count towards the concentration. Someone suggested making room by requiring 6 courses and a final project that could take various forms. In the end, we endorsed continuation of the concentration, and we wish them a successful transition in leadership.
7. Handbook HAS to be our highest priority next week. Discussion is expected to be swift. Kathy & Kendrick will be away the following week.
8. Allocations/Curricular Visioning Strategies: Can we anticipate anything? Not much until the deadline hits. Kathy will bring the number of anticipated open positions to our next meeting. We have 11 Curricular Visioning documents so far. We should begin reading them next week. They will be put in a MoodleGroup. Read them with an eye for the bigger picture, but also watch for things that may inform allocations reviews. A CV spreadsheet shall be shared as a collective memory aid.

Adjourned at 4:31

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Niemi, Registrar