

## EPAG Minutes

Thursday, September 5, 2013

3:00-4:30 Campus Center 214

June Ban, Terry Boychuk, Kendrick Brown, Darcy Burgund, Merita Bushi, Susan Fox, Geoff Gorham, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Jaine Strauss, Joelle Vitiello (Chair)

1 Approval of minutes: The minutes from May 9, 2013 were approved.

2. Course change proposals: Jayne explained the course approval process. We looked at the draft of the change memo, noting a change of heart in the Japanese section. The proposals were then approved. The approved changes will be circulated to the full faculty on Friday.

3. Second Language Proficiency Requirement Task Force Report: Joelle summarized the charge to the Task Force and how the report was constructed. On Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:45 to 6 there will be a gathering of Language, Literature, and Culture (LLC) faculty to discuss the report and the many questions that remain or will be newly generated. We should note that section five is about things we should be conscious of as we discuss the requirement. Sections 1, 2, and 3 are about updating the language for the requirement, then ideally assessment will happen, and then implementation. It's the assessment of the culture that is more difficult than language piece. Initially our task as EPAG is to react to the report, meet with the LLC faculty, incorporate that feedback, and then work on change.

The data collected for the Task Force might be useful to send along with the report (ask Nancy Bostrom). Ann described her practice when documenting non-Mac languages. Do we have any Mac faculty who are not LLC faculty who should be invited to discussions? Joelle cautioned not to make too big a deal about the culture piece as being "new", since it is generally part of coursework in the four semester language sequence. What happens next is the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> – we hope EPAG folks will attend. Ann volunteered to be a scribe. There will be some snacks at that meeting.

4. Educational Studies: Jaine Strauss left the room since she is currently the acting chair of Educational Studies. We began to discuss the department's response to the review report. Our goal is to help Joelle to draft an EPAG letter to the department to wrap everything up. We explained the allocations process in broad strokes to the students. Joelle will send a draft of a letter to everyone except Jaine, who will see it in its final form.

5. FACT grants: We are talking about the FACT grants which came as a result of the collaborative teaching piece of the CDP. The CDP is meant to be reviewed about every three years, and if we decide to eliminate something, it still stays on for a year. Since the FACT grants did not attract the number of applicants we expected each year, our question is whether the FACT grant stay on as is, go away, or change in some way. We should be looking at the overall CDP and the curricular priorities – deciding what should stay and what should go, but either way, we will need to ask for FACT proposals for next year. There were questions about why applications dwindled, and how students evaluated the courses that were FACT-funded. Do we have information about the success of prior courses from the point of view of faculty and the students? More information was requested from Kendrick's office.

6. Calendar and other issues raised by MCSG: There are multiple calendar-related issues that need follow-up, including the number of instructional days as well as study days, time for completion of course evaluations, and the use of evaluations. Any changes to the academic calendar must be made in well-advance of the December 1 approval & publication deadline. Study Away by international students was also on MCSG's list. Several people in the room have been involved in on-going discussions regarding that policy.

7. Curricular Visioning Documents: These did not prove as useful as hoped. So our question is really what can be produced that would illuminate possible synergies in the curriculum. There's still some confusion about the difference between the CDP and the CVDs. Is the first a college vision and the latter departmental? We think so, but it remains a source of confusion.

8. There is an EPAG Moodle for document storage, particularly useful for department review documents.

Adjourned at 4:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Niemi, Registrar