

EPAG Minutes

Nov 21 2013

3:00-4:30 Campus Center 214

June Ban, Terry Boychuck, Kendrick Brown, Darcy Burgund, Merita Bushi, Terri Fishel, Susan Fox, Geoff Gorham, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Jaine Strauss, Joelle Vitiello (Chair), Harry Waters, Jr.

1. Approval of minutes: The minutes from October 31, 2013 were approved.
2. Jayne shared the updates to the previously circulated draft of the Course Change memo. The changes were approved.
3. Physics request: The department has withdrawn their request for the time being while they consider other possibilities.
4. Thanksgiving survey about Wednesday absenteeism: Jaine created a survey to benchmark what attendance is like now on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. After the initial review of the survey, further discussion revealed more complexities than had been earlier imagined. The resulting decision was to abandon the survey. If the new calendar model is adopted, then the importance of attendance during Thanksgiving week classes will be emphasized.
5. FACT proposals: We reviewed the four FACT proposals. We will transmit our general positive feelings and the few concerns we have to Kendrick for his final decision.
6. Rules for Study Day 1 and 2. We attempted to craft rules for both days. There was agreement on the following rules for both days: no class sessions will be held, no final exams will be given, no papers will be due, no preceptors may work, and all study/review sessions are optional. Additionally, departments and programs may schedule “optional” events that cannot reasonably be held at other times in the semester (e.g., senior capstone presentations) during the first study day only. The second study day will have no activities scheduled, except for study sessions arranged by the professor. Campus Reservations and the Registrar’s Office will only allow space reservations for those study sessions. Note that reservations for off-campus (non-Mac student) groups using campus space will be allowed, provided the group’s activity does not interfere with the intended use of study days.
7. Hispanic Studies Review Response: We discussed the points that were highlighted so that Joelle can write up our response. We can review a draft of the letter in Google docs.
8. In December, we’ll look at the CGH self-study, undertake a simple review of CDP, and we should have the French department’s self-study. Our task will then be to read the self-study and offer up additional questions for the reviewers, which we will do by email. Looking ahead to spring semester’s tasks, allocations will begin meeting in March. If there’s no new line available, no deluge of requests is expected. We think that the FACT line will lie fallow for the CDP. There will be a Writing requirement proposal, as well as the GERC Internationalism report. In the spring, we will gather opinions from EPAG members, current and new, about who should serve as next year’s chair.

Adjourned at 4:32

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Niemi, Registrar