

EPAG Minutes

February 13, 2014

3:00-4:30 Campus Center 214

Present: June Ban, Terry Boychuk, Kendrick Brown, Ernesto Capello, Merita Bushi, Terri Fishel, Susan Fox, Geoff Gorham, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Jaine Strauss, Joelle Vitiello (Chair), Harry Waters, Jr.

1. Approval of minutes of February 6 meeting - minutes approved.
2. Review of document regarding compliance of variable credit system for HLC - Joelle reviewed the Curriculum Committee minutes of 1992 and prepared a document for EPAG to review. After discussion it was decided that EPAG only needs to reaffirm that classes need to meet 40 times (40-42 hours) MWF and 26-28 TTH meeting periods as per the policy established in 1993, and we are in compliance. This was reaffirmed by EPAG.
3. WGSS review: preparation of questions for outside reviewers - Discussed additional questions and Joelle will prepare the questions and send them to Kendrick.
4. Review of motion about proposed revisions to the Writing General Education - The draft motion was shared in Moodle groups. Discussion focused on the question of faculty support for the initiative. It is not known how many faculty would opt out of teaching writing in the FYC and there is uncertainty about the ability to add additional courses for first years that would include basic writing. In the course of discussion, concerns were raised about the issue of courses that meet a GenEd designation with one faculty member, but the same course under another faculty member will not. There is a general agreement that with our current assessment practices in place we could return to the practice of designating courses as meeting GenEd requirements independent of who is teaching the course. This would give students assurance that a course would not lose the GenEd designation with a change in faculty teaching the course. This change would require faculty approval and would become effective with the entering class of 2015. A request was made to change "instruct" to "introduce" students to library research. Another concern was raised regarding how to ensure that a WA which is a core class takes place at the beginning of student's career, not at the end.

Joelle will invite Adrienne Christiansen, Erik Larson, and Karl Wirth to the next EPAG meeting. The goal is to present the motion for a vote in April. There is a Chairs meeting on February 25th and the writing motion could be shared at that time. For process, will include sharing the motion with faculty who teach writing courses, have an online forum, town halls and a student meeting. The faculty meeting is April 8th.

5. Allocations requests - by next week, Joelle should know the number of proposals so we will look at calendars to determine allocations meetings. Joelle has also received the Theatre and Dance response to the review which she will share on Moodle groups.

Meeting adjourned at 4:23.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director