

EPAG Minutes
November 06, 2014
3:00 – 4:30
Campus Center 214

Present: Kendrick Brown, Ernie Capello, Terri Fishel, Susan Fox, Geoff Gorham (Chair), Aaron Hymoff, Erica Lee, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Karen Saxe, Jaine Strauss

1. Approval of Minutes for 10.30.14 (google.docs/drive) - minutes approved.

2. Chair communications.

Geoff went to the first meeting of the Internationalism Task Force along with Ernie (Chair.) Geoff provided a briefing and charge for the group. The overall assessment was that it was a good meeting with good discussion and questions about process. The group will be completing their charge by the end of the semester.

Two anticipated meetings for Geoff were cancelled - the liaison meeting of the chairs of the three faculty committees and the Grants committee.

External reviewers for the International Studies review will be here on Monday and Karen and Geoff will meet with them.

In the next few weeks EPAG will be receiving and reviewing the following reports regarding departmental reviews:

- Nov. 10 - Latin American Studies response to review due
- Dec. 9th - French and Francophone response to review due
- Dec. 1 - WGSS response to review due

We also have a proposal to make some changes to the computer science major to address significantly increased enrollments over the past few years. MSCS will also submit a revision of a proposed minor in Data Science which we should have by Thanksgiving.

3. CDP Interim Report (moodle) - As a reminder, the CDP guides long term emphases of the curriculum and informs allocations requests. The current report is linked from the Provost's page - <http://www.macalester.edu/provost/reports/>. Currently, the CDP is to be reviewed every three years and when goals have been met, they should be removed. Last year we agreed to produce an addendum rather than any revisions because of strategic planning discussions that were underway on campus. It was pointed out that the language referring to the Global City in the current addendum as written may need to change based on a recent proposal submitted to the Strategic Planning group that makes reference to it. Additional discussion included clarification on "work on institutional citizenship" which refers to language on the IGC web page. The next call for updates to the CDP will not occur until after the Board of Trustees votes on the Strategic Plan in January. For the next meeting, Geoff will rewrite the addendum addressing the points mentioned in discussion.

4. Concentrations Policy

-- Possible revisions to Draft Proposal (moodle).

-- Further discussion and next steps.

Geoff prepared a grid of cross department and cross division requirements for current concentrations. It was decided that we would keep the requirement for at least three departments included in the concentration plan and an aspiration that concentrations include two disciplines in their course of study. International Development is the only concentration that specifies no “double-dipping”, but they are also the newest concentration. After discussion it was decided that concentrations must require a culminating event of some kind. Examples include:

- poster session
- dinner and discussion of papers/themes
- event that provides opportunity for a meaningful discussion
- INTD course for no more than 2 credits
- workshops and colloquia

Issue of resources/support needs to be addressed and Geoff will meet with Provost to discuss options that could include establishing a fund and some means of personnel support for department coordinators. Resources include staff and faculty time, so the question was raised as to a possible student or staff position that could assist with concentrations.

It was agreed that reviews would take place after five years for new concentrations, then every three years. This would mean that with twelve concentrations, EPAG would be reviewing four per year. Issue remaining to be addressed is free-standing minors and folding them into departments.

Geoff will revise language in document and Kendrick will be revising language with guidance for reviews.

5. Preliminary Review of THDA Majors restructure (moodle). The proposal is to consolidate to one major. Concern was raised about team teaching for first year course as well as a need to clarify exact requirements for the major. The proposal includes a proposed start date of Fall 2015 which means EPAG needs to review and respond quickly.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director