

EPAG Minutes

Wednesday, October 15th, 4:00 to 5:30

Campus Center 214

Aaron Brown, Kendrick Brown, Pete Ferderer (Chair), Terri Fishel, Terry Krier, Carleton Macy, David Martyn, Kathy Murray, Jayne Niemi, Tom Varberg, Eric Wiertelak

1. The minutes from the October 8th meeting were approved.
2. Board of Trustees: Those who attended various parts of the recent BOT meeting reported back to the group. Kathy told us that there were conversations about changing the format of the meeting so that it's a better use of trustees' time, perhaps focusing on a particular topic, such as what the work of the faculty is really like.
3. Pete reported on the conference he attended on quantitative reasoning/thinking.
4. Pete reported on the Global Cities Program meeting. Other attendees were Paul Schadewald, Jane Rhodes, and Mike Monahan. It's intended to be a year-long program, one semester of which is at Macalester. The Foundation for International Education offers the courses. The program is still in development, and probably will start no sooner than 2010-11.
5. A request for hire without national search is on the docket for next week. Kathy will send information on that, as well as updating us on the on-going searches.
6. Handbook Revisions, Section 7, II: There was discussion of tracks/emphases and whether they should appear on the transcript. We concluded that "grandfathering" existing ones would allow current tracks to continue to be noted on the transcript, but any new ones must be approved by EPAG. We made some other editorial changes. Pete will prepare a rationale to accompany the proposed changes.
7. Handbook Revisions, Section 7, VI: We made some editorial changes to the draft. We also talked about strategic planning and about how to address it in this document. In the end, we decided to take the section about strategic planning out for the purposes of this handbook revision.
8. General Education Requirements: Pete reported that Erik Larson offered the services of his spring semester course to survey students about the General Education Requirements. We might be involved in shaping the survey.
9. Drop/add policy exception for sequential courses: A situation that arose in the German department brought this issue up. Jayne dug up an existing policy that covers this kind of situation, allowing students to change to a different level of the sequential course after the

drop/add period, under certain circumstances. Jayne will email a reminder of this policy to the chairs of affected departments.

10. Institutional support for off-campus courses: The subject here was courses, usually during January, that require travel. What kind of institutional support is available for those who offer them – travel arrangements, liability issues are among the issues. There does not appear to be a central information source for these types of courses. The discussion then moved to local field trips and van use.

11. Kathy distributed her first attempt at a draft of the faculty addendum document.

12. Adjourned at 5:33.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Niemi, Registrar