

## EPAG Minutes

January 29, 2015

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Campus Center

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

1. Approval of minutes: Minutes from January 22 were approved as distributed.
2. Course change approvals: the requested changes were approved.
3. Chair Communications
  - Geoff went to the liaison committee meeting & asked for their feedback on the concentration policy.
  - RPC will have a proposal on non-tenure-track faculty issues, some of which will come to EPAG
  - Ernie has graciously agreed to serve as chair next year.
  - Geoff reported that he had received an email from the Provost between our fall and spring meeting about the single FACT application which was fine. It was for Dosch & Kurth-Schai to do a 4 credit collaboration based on the 2 credit course they collaborated on before. Geoff agreed with the Provost's judgment that it met the criteria for support.
  - Letter to WGSS is pretty much good to go, after elaboration on intro course details, assuming Kathy and Mark have no further comments to add.
3. Revised Interdisciplinary Concentrations Policy - We reviewed the document again. Issues raised & conclusions reached included:
  - our struggle with being welcoming (with squishy language and internal review guidelines) and being transparent (with specific language and published guidelines).
  - overlap (how much is too much) and language that will not preclude some majors (like IS, ES, others with "focus") from participating. What about flipping the language to be positive (must have at least three courses in the concentration that are not on a single major, minor, or other concentration).
  - Geoff will do another draft.
  - To take it to the March faculty meeting, we will want to have an on-line forum open for two weeks.
  - While the forum is up, Jaine and Geoff will also have more conversations with the concentration directors.
4. Targeted Hire Conversation - We returned to the conversation about tweaking the targeted hire policy so that the committee can make both quick and thoughtful decisions. The Provost agrees that in the recent case, a copy of the proposal should have been distributed. We will suggest changes to the wording of the policy so that distribution is advised, ideally with 24 hours in advance of the meeting where it will be considered.
5. Discussion of Faculty Handbook language on academic dishonesty/plagiarism. See current Handbook 4, I, A and C (moodle). Ann reported on the current practice, which is out of sync with what is in the Handbook. For Academic standing appeals, Ann gathers the information and the

Provost makes the decision. That's also true for SARC appeals. For academic integrity violations, the appeals are to a sub-group of the Academic Standing Committee. This works well, and she recommends that we get rid of the language that conflicts. Although the language says EPAG "reviews" appeals, oversight of the process is more accurate, because an EPAG representative is on each committee. In the case of thorny appeals for the academic integrity issues, the Provost could also be consulted. Ann will draft new language that works. We also noted for the record that many changes to the Handbook should be made to comply with other faculty votes that have occurred since it was last updated. Perhaps such Handbook changes could be made without additional voting.

6. Preview of allocations: Kendrick is updating relevant documents on Moodle. Student reps do not participate. The deadline for requests is 2/6/15, after which the requests themselves will be uploaded to Moodle. It's expected that if there is a new Provost appointed by the time of allocations meetings, that person will not participate in those meetings. The Provost will deliver a briefing document about the various requests, each tailored to exclude any recused faculty.

7. Susan and Karen left while we discussed the response of MSCS to our Data Science minor questions.

8. Next time: more on Data Science, THDA, and questions for the Asian Languages and Cultures reviewers.

Adjourned at 4:34

Respectfully submitted by Jayne Niemi, Registrar