

## EPAG Minutes

September 22nd, 2016

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Campus Center 206

Present: Andrew Beveridge, Darcy Burgund (Chair), Ron Barrett, Julia Chadaga, Saakshi Daswani, Erik Davis, Remy Eisendrath, Terri Fishel, Cynthia Kauffeld, Mark Mazullo, Ann Minnick, Paul Overvoorde.

## Agenda

1. Approval of minutes for September 15th, 2016 - approved as posted.
2. Chair communications
  - a. Email about faculty meeting time - Darcy has received no objections, only lots of positives.
  - b. Survey/questionnaire - concerns about process for distribution to faculty. We had an extensive discussion about our roles on EPAG and how best to collect feedback on topics under discussion in EPAG. It was pointed out that we have divisional representation in order to get a broad perspective, but members are representing the entire college, not individual divisions. There was concern expressed about the college policy on [conducting surveys](#), but there was also concern expressed that there be discussion before sending out questions about issues under discussion. In terms of the topic in question, voting rights, it was pointed out that we had NTT members come to EPAG, we had a lunch discussion with NTT, and an RPC discussion at a faculty meeting. If information gathering is to be done, we need to make sure it has useful information and thus the need for questionnaire design. Ron will share information on the RPC document about voting rights at other institutions. The issue of conducting a poll of the faculty was tabled.
3. Neuroscience Studies major revision - tabled.
4. CDP discussion - the remainder of the meeting was to discuss and identify themes from the submissions that were sent in last spring. The themes that were identified included:
  - Internationalism
  - Arts/Humanities real world relevance
  - Making better use of existing resources
  - Historical studies
  - Diversify faculty

These were condensed to three overall themes:

- Internationalism
- Historical depth
- Collaboration across disciplines

The question of mentorship of students and how we could think about the teacher-scholar model which is explicit at other colleges was also raised. As allocation requests are tied to the CDP we need concrete criteria and something that speaks to each of the divisions. It was also mentioned that the shifting nature of student majors is important. 48% of the graduating class of 2016 had majors from Olin Rice and the

importance of the liberal arts for scientists was mentioned as a theme. Additional examples of interdisciplinary studies included:

- Data science in other buildings - Julie Dolan and Karen Saxe
- Digital liberal arts - different ways of envisioning technology as tools, creating narratives and sharing information in new ways
- Data science minor curricular innovation and cross disciplinary
- Urban sustainability

Summary of current priorities:

- East and South Asia (continue to list as priority)
- Historical Depth (continue to list as priority)
- Global City (continue to list as priority)
- Health and society (drop as priority)
- Mentoring student scholarship
- Civic engagement
- Indigenous American Studies

### **Next steps**

Deadline - there is no specific deadline. We need to present a revised CDP, but it will be a shorter version with references to the longer version. We need to reach agreement on what to keep, what to discard, and what to condense.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel