

EPAG Minutes

April 26, 2018

3:00-4:30 p.m. Campus Center 214

Present: Ron Barret, Darcy Burgund, Julia Chadaga, Erik Davis, Terri Fishel, Dan Hornbach, Cynthia Kauffeld (Chair), Kaitlyn Lindaman, Mark Mazullo, Ann Minnick, Karine Moe, Jayne Niemi, Paul Overvoorde, Shelby Wetherby

1. Approval of meeting minutes for Apr. 19th, 2018 - approved.
2. Chair communications
 - Dan's report for the Chairs meeting on absence policy - only one department was interested in college sponsoring field trips; many concerned about absences by athletes. Current policy is that if over 10% of the classes would be missed, it is up to faculty member to decide. Based on the spring class schedule for MWF class periods, 5 absences is more than 10%, and only 3 for TTH classes. Some faculty have advised students missing too many classes to take another class.
 - Letter from student reps - they were thanked for their contributions.
 - Final faculty meeting just a report.
4. Cynthia was recognized and thanked for her leadership this year.
5. Registrar communications - course change memo - approved.
6. Survey results: incoming students' views on the liberal arts (Nancy Bostrom and Paul O) - presented data on the survey responses followed by a brief discussion with EPAG members. Committee members were impressed with the student responses on their perspectives of a liberal arts education. Suggestions were made on following up with the cohort on certain questions. The results are also shared with admissions, student affairs, advancement, and career development center.
7. Course evaluations - update from Provost. Paper copies are only supported after the fall of 2019. Task force recommended a standardized course evaluation with only part standardized and then a bank of approved questions that could be customized. In order to accomplish this, we'd need to determine the validated questions and then select a platform. Ann and Paul O. will work with the Provost in the summer to identify appropriate platforms and in the fall a group of faculty will be convened to work out the details of the bank of questions and pilot a new system. . This will be announced at the May faculty meeting.
7. Curricular Development Plan - reviewed suggestions for revisions. Discussion included asking how to make the document broader, with more guiding principles; using the CDP for more than allocations such as for looking at concentrations and review of courses; integrating learning goals; adding Common Good; making the CDP a document to balance the strategic plan; possibly using the CDP to guide GERC in their work. Cynthia will work on adding the suggestions and making links to other relevant documents.

Meeting adjourned at 4:32

Submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director

