

EPAG Minutes

April 4, 2019

Campus Center 3- 4:30 p.m.

Present: Ron Barrett, Eric Carter, Erik Davis, Terri Fishel, Dan Hornbach (chair), Joanna Inglot, Jayne Niemi, Ann Minnick, Karine Moe, Paul Overvoorde

1. [Approval of Minutes - March 28, 2019](#) - approved.
2. [Monthly course memo](#) - approved.
3. First-year survey discussion with Polly Fassinger and Adam Johnson. Beginning in 1992, Macalester has utilized a survey from UCLA to gain an understanding of our first-year students as they've entered Macalester. Currently, "The Freshman Survey" does not allow editing or adding questions. Discussion focused on a proposal from Institutional Research to develop its own survey of first-years, to enable us to better understand our students, their goals, and their experiences. IR has initiated this project with the approval of the Provost. In addition to gathering feedback from EPAG members, Polly asked how important is if that the survey is tied to our learning outcomes as well as the mission of the college. EPAG members were encouraged to pass on ideas to Polly. It was requested that IR have a possible draft for review before our last meeting on May 2.
4. Handbook Language Change for Department Reviews - we discussed revisions suggested by Paul Overvoorde in the [Dept. Review Handbook update](#). Discussed possible conflicts of interest, clarified a few questions and reviewed the template for reviewers. Dan will let faculty know about the updates at the next faculty meeting next week. [Draft Template for Reviewers, Avoiding Conflicts form](#)
5. [GERC QT Assessment Report Discussion](#) - reviewed and discussed the QT report. Reviewed recommendations. One recommendation was to create a Director of QT in order to improve assessment and identify professional development opportunities for faculty. Current handbook language about composition of GERC, a committee convened by the Registrar for reviewing and approving for General Education requirements does not match the reality that this is a subcommittee of EPAG. GERC is planning to look at reports from previous years to review recommendations and see what has been done. Some of the recommendations from the QT report have appeared in previous reports. EPAG will review the structure of GERC next year and evaluate how to better implement our general education requirements.
6. Next week - end of course evaluations, Academic Standing catalog change, Student exception request, and Transfer credit policy.

Meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Fishel, Library Director