

EPAG Minutes

Monday, February 16, 2009

3:30-5:00

Campus Center 214

Kendrick Brown, Pete Ferderer (chair), Terri Fishel, Terry Krier, Carleton Macy, David Martyn, Andrew Meeker, Ann Minnick, Jayne Niemi, Terence Steinberg, Tom Varberg, Eric Wiertelak

1. Minutes of February 9, 2009 were approved, with an addition to item 4 to indicate that the change to this year's allocation consideration process is intended to be a one-time strategy in an unusual time.
2. Announcements: Thanks to Carleton for doing the Grants committee meetings. For Allocations, we intend to reserve one EPAG meeting time in its entirety and a 4:45 -8:45 dinner meeting the next day. Stay tuned for which dates those turn out to be. Either March 30th and 31st, or April 13th and 14th. Pete will check with Kathy and Jane Rhodes about their schedules. A volunteer is needed to meet with the biology review team on Tuesday, March 3rd between 9 and 11 – Tom and Eric both volunteered. Pete will inform the department.
3. Program accordance: We had asked for eight pieces of information – four of those were basically lists of names. The other four were the criteria for new courses, how students will be advised, future plans, and catalog copy. In no particular order, we reviewed the documents provided and came to the following conclusions:
 - African Studies: in accord, but we are concerned about the challenges of a two-tier course system.
 - Urban Studies: in accord.
 - Human Rights and Humanitarianism: in accord.
 - Global Citizenship: in accord.
 - Middle East Studies and Islamic Civilization: Pete will send this back to the steering committee for more information. Is it true that this can't be done without an FTE – if that's the case, there is no FTE available. Does this mean the program should be discontinued? We'll give them a deadline so that it can still be pulled from the catalog.
 - Legal Studies: We will inform them that to be in accord, they must become a program, offer a concentration, and may no longer offer courses with the prefix LEGA.
4. We discussed the issue of overlap between minors that came up in the recent faculty meeting, and was further discussed in a letter to EPAG from Karen Saxe. We want to consider the overlap issue in general later this year, if our agenda allows, and consider making changes to the handbook which provide limits or the extent of minor and major course overlap. In the meantime, Pete will alert Satoko to the concerns.
5. Kendrick offered to share his mark-ups of the handbook and bylaws to direct our discussion and further work on the “restructuring of EPAG”.

6. Terry distributed documents regarding assessment of the W General Education requirement. She elaborated on some proposed inquiries to put to students as part of final course evaluations, and a proposed metric. We discussed these things and asked questions of Terry. She will change some phrasing and share it with Pete, and we think it could be useful for the other Gen Ed Assessment groups.
7. Pete talked about the Institute for Gen Ed and Assessment conference at the University of Minnesota, May 29-June 3. Should we put together a team? It feels too early – maybe next year!

Adjourned at 5:02.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne Niemi, Registrar