EPAG Meeting 3/26/15 Minutes

Present: Capello, Fox, Hymoff, Strauss, Lee, Gorham, Minnick, Mazullo, Murray, Brown, Vitiello

3/12/15 minutes approved as amended to clarify that a preliminary conversation about the French and Francophone Studies external review response was begun (and continued at today's meeting).

Course change memo approved.

Educational Studies major changes: Gorham summarized changes. They were approved.

Economics major change: Gorham summarized changes. They were approved.

Chair communications:
1) Gorham had a productive liaison group meeting.
2) Asian Languages review team report submitted; we can expect response next year.
3) Data Science minor received; will be item on 4/9 agenda.
4) Met with HWJ regarding THDA major/minor revisions. Progress is being made.
5) Gorham and Capello will meet with AmSt review team on Monday.

French department’s response to review (Joelle left the room). Gorham summarized the salient issues and elicited EPAG input. Some wondered whether making 204 part of the major was anomalous among languages. Others wondered what impact this would have on total number of credits. Lots of discussion about how the department is responding to the recommendations regarding 4xx-level courses. More information is needed. Geoff will draft a response and bring it back to EPAG on 4/9.

Concentration policy. Gorham discussed the most recent changes. Wondered if we could review it at our next EPAG meeting on 4/9 and still have it considered at 4/14 faculty meeting. Consensus is no; it would better to send it out to faculty sooner than that. Gorham will send out changes via email for a quicker turnaround. Question about the budget piece. Kathy: “If motion passes urging resources, and there aren’t any, what does that mean? No more concentrations? What we are currently doing isn’t sustainable.” Joelle: “If we don’t say anything, then concentrations will continue to be underfunded. They are showcased in the strategic plan.” Ernie: “Is the language in the motion too strict?” Kathy: “That part of the motion isn’t helpful.” Jaine: “Maybe move that part into the rationale.” Agreed. Gorham will do that. Other major change is motion 2, cleaning up handbook language. Ernie asked how this language applied to Latin American Studies. KB: Latin American Studies, Asian Studies and Neuroscience Studies don’t
fit the new language. Ernie: Recommend clarifying that these programs aren't covered by new language.

Adjourned at 3:56.