

EPAG Minutes

January 26th, 2017

Campus Center 206

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Present: Ron Barrett, Andrew Beveridge, Darcy Burgund (Chair), Julia Chadaga, Saakshi Daswani, Remy Eisendrath, Cynthia Kauffeld, Mark Mazullo, Ann Minnick

January 19th 2017 minutes were approved.

Chair communications: Anthropology self study will be available early next week. Members are asked to review the document prior to our next meeting so we can generate questions for the review team.

Allocations dates were revisited. Darcy will confirm changes with Karine and others not present at today's meeting and recirculate.

Curricular Pressures Conversation: The following questions were discussed. What is EPAG's role in this matter? As a deliberative body it can't respond quickly to issues and the crisis in MSCS needs quick action. We can facilitate conversations, but not much more. CDP is intended to inform allocations. Is that document a productive way of responding to the MSCS crisis? What is Admissions role in influencing the shape of the college? How do they recruit? Who is the external consultant and what is their role in the type of students we get? What is the relationship between humanities/arts and STEM/social sciences? How do we preserve a balanced liberal arts model? How do students make decisions on majors? Can we do a survey to better understand their thinking processes? There may be some value in EPAG thinking through these questions in relationship to CDP and allocations, but we can't solve the MSCS crisis. Darcy has created a google doc to capture our questions. Members should add to that as other thoughts/concerns/issues arise.

Cog Sci Proposal: Cynthia reviewed the history. There was general agreement that this is a good proposal, even stronger in light of new Neuroscience major. Comments made about concentrations in general and how many the college can sustain. Specific question on this proposal: Could Math 155 be removed as a Statistics option? Maybe a statement that allows other courses as exceptions? Cynthia will craft a letter to Darcy as Cog Sci proposer, then get appropriate documentation to Paul Dosh in advance of next faculty meeting.

Food, Ag and Society Concentration: A number of questions/concerns were raised. Is Director doing colloquium on overload or does teaching the colloquium count in their load? How will the concentration ensure there are enough students doing internships in a given semester to make the colloquium work? Most of the courses listed are topics and aren't regularly offered. Is the Concentration sustainable give the current curriculum? Is it truly cross-divisional? General sense that the focus is laudable, but that the proposal is currently aspirational. Darcy will draft

a letter that addresses our thoughts. (Not a solid core; demand of internship/colloquium and faculty load; lack of true divisional representation (no FA courses) and hence depth; no clear student pathway; what are learning goals and outcomes.)

EPAG adjourned at 4:30.

Submitted by Ann Minnick, secretary du jour