

Educational Policies Committee (EPC) Minutes

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Status of Minutes: Approved 2/17/16

MEMBERS PRESENT: L. Becker, B. Lasky, Y. Mimura, B. Osorno, D. Schwartz, W. Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: C. Spector, D. Wakefield

STAFF: E. Adams, J. Hunter

GUESTS PRESENT: M. Gomez, M. Cahn, G. Lennon, J. Binkley, C. Hayashi, C. Jones, M. Filbeck, J. Stallcup, R. Espinoza, P. Faiman

I. Announcements

- A. L. Becker informed the committee that L. Borchard and G. Terzyan will no longer serve on EPC. Senate Executive Committee is in the process of appointing two new faculty members. The A.S. President was contacted about appointing a new student representative.
- B. L. Becker announced the curriculum review schedule for Spring 2016.
- C. E. Adams shared that the Basic Skills Policy has been referred by the Senate Executive Committee to Faculty Senate and the first reading will be in a couple of weeks.
- D. E. Adams announced that there has been an increase in some colleges/departments/faculty enforcing grade prerequisites for a subsequent class that are not stated in the catalog course description. If a department wants to enforce a grade requirement for a prerequisite it has to be stated in the course description for each course. Associate deans are encouraged to look at curriculum and catalog copy for consistency. A list of courses will be provided to the associate deans.
- E. L. Becker announced that the Finance, B.S. program modification approved in Fall 2015 was missing a course from the current and proposed catalog copy. The course was omitted in error and the department has updated the catalog copy.

F. E. Adams informed the committee that the Spanish, B.A. option in Translation and Interpretation approved by EPC in Spring 2015 will not move forward to the Chancellor's Office. The requirements do not overlap enough with the existing Spanish, B.A. options. The college is working on modifying the Spanish degrees to overlap. She recommended that EPC review new options more closely to make sure at least 50 percent of the course requirements are shared with the core degree.

II. Business

A. The minutes from 12/2/15 were **MSP approved**.

B. L. Becker suggested that the committee start a conversation to establish a consistent set of principles and a systematic way to review new General Education (GE) course proposals. For example, the standard for demonstrating that a proposal meets GE student learning outcomes. Since EPC reviews proposals on a course-by-course basis, the committee is not necessarily looking at the entire GE package when approving a new GE course. An increasing number of new GE proposals suggests that EPC needs to look at the bigger picture of GE, especially as the campus reduces overall enrollment. L. Becker reminded the committee that EPC does not play a role in enrollment management and it is not EPC's purview to determine if or how often a GE course will be offered.

E. Adams emphasized that as more courses are added to GE, the bigger GE will become. The role of EPC is to make sure GE reflects how the faculty want the curriculum.

L. Becker suggested setting up a subcommittee to look at EPC's role in reviewing GE courses, GE recertification and surrounding mandates. The subcommittee could put a small study group together to look at these questions and report back with alternative paths forward. Then the Standard Operating Procedures can be updated to state what EPC is looking for in GE proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.