

Educational Policies Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Status of Minutes: Approved 9/16/2020

Attendees

Members Present: M. Alvarez Rojas, L. Becker, D. Choudhary, S. Garrett, K. Grote, B. Lasky, C. Mayberry, Y. Mimura, D. Weingarten, T. Zirakian

Members Absent: N. Golden

Staff: E. Adams, D. Cours, J. Hunter

Guests: K. Baxter, S. Esparza, P. Faiman, J. Gandhi, D. Gray, K. Harris, C. Hayashi, X. Jia, K. Luna, P. Lazarony, D. Mercado, L. Moody, R. Ryan, D. Tamalis, T. White, B. Wu

I. Announcements

- A. D. Weingarten (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that the 2020-2021 [Meeting Schedule](#) is posted on the EPC website.
- B. New and returning members, associate deans and guests introduced themselves.
- C. D. Weingarten announced the curriculum review schedule for Fall 2020:
 1. 9/16/2020: Previously Offered Experimental Topics, Selected Topics, New Experimental Topics, Early Implementation, General Education Proposals
 2. 10/07/2020: HHD, CECS
 3. 10/21/2020: HUM (except JS), MCCAMC
 4. 11/04/2020: SBS, JS
 5. 11/18/2020: DNCBE
 6. 12/02/2020
- D. D. Weingarten requested program review representatives for the following meetings:
 1. Central American Studies Zoom Exit Meeting 9/17 from 4-5 p.m.: **L. Becker**
 2. Kinesiology Zoom Exit Meeting 10/8 from 4 p.m.-5 p.m.: **C. Mayberry**
 3. Urban Studies and Planning Zoom Exit Meeting 10/14, 4-5 p.m.: **B. Lasky**

II. Business

- A. D. Weingarten shared that B. Ricks is the Senate Executive Committee liaison to EPC.
- B. The Standing Committee Expectations were **MSP approved** for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The Educational Policies Committee resolves that the following constitute the minimum expectations of each of its members in the 2020-2021 academic year:

1. Attend the entirety of every meeting and participate actively in meetings.
2. Thoroughly and thoughtfully read all distributed materials prior to the meeting.
3. Volunteer for subcommittees or other tasks (such as serving as the EPC rep at program review meetings) as the need arises so that the workload can be spread fairly among members of the committee.
4. Ensure that the climate of the committee is conducive to all viewpoints receiving a full and fair hearing.

C. The minutes from 5/6/2020 were **MSP approved**.

D. It was **MSP approved** to adopt the current Standard Operating Procedures for the 2020-2021 academic year. Additionally, a subcommittee was formed to update the Standard Operating Procedures. C. Mayberry, Y. Mimura and D. Weingarten volunteered for the subcommittee.

E. D. Weingarten reminded the committee that the standards for early implementation, proposal requirements, assessment and financial resource implications, as outlined in the Standard Operating Procedures, still apply.

F. C. Mayberry reported on the Liberal Studies program review final MOU meeting. She said the final MOU included nine strengths and seven recommendations.

G. D. Weingarten asked if the committee wanted to continue working on the Attendance Policy revisions from last year. E. Adams provided background and suggested that the committee postpone updating the Attendance Policy due to more emergent policy issues this year. D. Weingarten said the committee can table the revisions and revisit updating the policy at a later time.

H. E. Adams gave an overview of the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) and how students meet the requirement at CSUN by passing the Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam (UDWPE). Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the campus was allowed to temporarily suspend the GWAR for Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 graduates because the in-person test could not be offered. She said the campus is out of compliance and should look at alternatives for students to satisfy the GWAR. Most CSU campuses offer more than one way for students to meet the GWAR, including embedding it into a degree requirement such as a capstone course or upper division GE. L. Becker suggested that the campus could align the GWAR with the Writing Intensive (WI) requirement in upper division GE. E. Adams and L. Becker, in consultation with D. Mercado, will draft a proposal to bring back to the committee.

I. General Education

1. The committee discussed the request to update the student learning outcomes for Natural Sciences. A subcommittee was formed to propose revised SLOs for Section B. D. Choudhary, S. Garrett and D. Gray volunteered for the subcommittee. D. Weingarten asked whether the committee wanted to honor the request to pause Section B curriculum in the pipeline. C. Mayberry indicated that under the current SOPs the proposals should be reviewed under current policy until the new SLOs are implemented. The committee also tabled revision of the SLOs for Arts and Humanities, Sections C1 and C2, to a later date.
 2. E. Adams provided background on upper division pattern modifications provisionally approved by the Academic Affairs Council. Current practice is not to consider the GE Writing Intensive (WI) requirement for upper division pattern modifications. The committee needs to decide whether to hold upper division GE pattern modifications to the WI requirement. C. Mayberry also reminded the committee that EPC wanted to discuss whether there should be a threshold for programs requesting a pattern modification, such as high unit majors. Further discussion will be scheduled later in the semester.
- J. D. Weingarten said Faculty President M. Neubauer asked EPC to make a recommendation on [Interstate Passport](#) to the Faculty Senate. Interstate Passport create linkages based on course SLOs instead of articulation agreements for transfer courses. E. Adams said she would ask her CSU counterparts if they are using Interstate Passport and the conversations their campuses are having about it. The discussion was tabled for a future meeting.
- K. E. Adams asked the committee to give an opinion on the basis of grading options for Fall 2020 grades. President Harrison previously suspended the policy for Spring 2020 and Summer 2020. The campus is currently under the standard policy that major, minor and GE coursework must be taken for a letter grade. C. Mayberry reminded the committee that EPC supported offering the same flexibility for Fall 2020 at the May 6, 2020 EPC meeting. After discussion, it was **MSF** to support continuing the grading options that were available for Spring 2020 and Summer 2020 and to also make those available for Fall 2020 (5 votes no; 2 votes yes; 1 abstention). D. Weingarten will inform the Senate Executive Committee of EPC's recommendation to continue with the standard grading policy for Fall 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.