

## Educational Policies Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Status of Minutes: Approved 9/6/23

### *Attendees*

**Members Present:** L. Becker, J. DeBonis, S. Garrett, K. Grote, M. Kadach, L. Marcal, Y. Mimura, T. Montaña, K. Taylor, D. Weingarten, T. Zirakian

**Staff:** D. Cours, R. Guerra, K. Harris, J. Hunter

**Guests:** K. Baxter, K. Dabbour, L. Domine, P. Eslami, S.J. Gandhi, A. Glocke, D. Gray, C. Hayashi, H. Heinrich X. Jia, P. Lazarony, J.C. Lee, S. Paik, L. Ruth-Hirrel, D. Tamalis, Y. Velazquez, B. Wu, J. Yoo

### **I. Announcements**

- A. D. Weingarten announced that the EPC Member Retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30, 2023 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. He asked members to send items for the retreat agenda to J. Hunter.
- B. D. Weingarten announced that the EPC meeting schedule is available for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- C. D. Weingarten welcomed new EPC member L. Ruth-Hirrel and thanked members who are leaving the committee for their service.
- D. D. Weingarten provided an update on the Faculty Senate run-off election results. L. Ruth-Hirrel has been appointed for a three-year term to EPC by the Faculty Senate.
- E. D. Weingarten announced that the Faculty Senate waived the first reading of the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement and passed the policy on April 20, 2023. The Majors and Minors policy recommendation will be considered by the Senate Executive Committee for a first reading tomorrow. SEC will also consider the Dean's List policy recommendation for a second reading. [Note: On May 4, 2023, SEC approved both policies for the September Faculty Senate agenda.]
- F. D. Weingarten provided an update on the record of consultation status the for Public Relations Minor approved on March 15, 2023. He said that no departments objected to the new minor; however, he requested that in the future EPC either pass curriculum based on the consultation timeframe outlined in the SOPs (no response after two weeks is considered concurrence) or table the item if an outstanding consultation is necessary to approve the proposal.

## II. Business

- A. The minutes from 4/19/2023 were **MSP approved**.
- B. K. Grote will be on sabbatical during Fall 2023 and requested a one-semester leave of absence from EPC. The leave request was **MSP approved**.
- C. D. Weingarten was elected EPC chair for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- D. Y. Velazquez provided an update on the Faculty Learning Community (FLC) for General Education Section A1 Oral Communication. The FLC, representing all departments teaching the 151 course, discussed the learning objectives, syllabus, course content and how the course is taught. In addition, the FLC reviewed rubrics and discussed assignments to find commonalities and identify priorities. The FLC also reviewed the A1 SLOs and ILOs. Although no changes were suggested, the FLC developed a potential list of JEDI ILOs that were provided to the JEDI FLC.

The FLC provided three recommendations. The first related to the composition and structure of the course and how that impacts class size and capacity to serve the number of students in the classroom. The FLC was in overall agreement that each student speaks for a minimum of 20 minutes, which has a direct relationship on class size, currently ranging from 25-31 students.

Next, it was recommended to house a 151 course in Deaf Studies to better serve Deaf students.

The final recommendation related to continuous improvement. The FLC learned from each other and collaborated to expand teaching practices. Students from different departments will compete in an intramural for the best informative presentation. The activity allowed the FLC to develop a rubric and have deep conversations about what is important for students to learn and take away from the course, which will be incorporated into assessment. Continuous improvement for lecturers teaching the course is also recommended.

- E. J. Yoo provided an update on the Faculty Learning Community (FLC) for General Education Section A3 Critical Thinking. She reviewed syllabi and conducted one-on-one faculty dialogues prior to presenting EPC with a list of findings and action items.

First, it was difficult for faculty to teach every single item in the SLOs and, as a result, the main topics of coverage varied. Some courses focused only on SLO 1 and SLO 2, whereas others focused only on SLO 4 and SLO 5. Next, the term “argumentative discourse” in SLO 1, could range from an Aristotelian syllogism to an entire set of social practices within a political power differential. This resulted in the teaching of SLO 1 and SLO 2 in different ways. Finally, it was clear across courses

that students obtain their information through the internet, and with the wide availability of platforms like ChatGPT, the SLOs need to include a focus on digital information navigation by fact checking and assessing the reliability of internet sources.

Possible action items that came out of discussions with faculty included updating the SLOs/ILOs. SLO 1 could be updated to include different senses of “argumentative discourse.” SLO 3 and SLO 4 could be updated to include digital information navigation. Finally, not many faculty cover logical fallacies in SLO 5, primarily because they occur very infrequently, and that time could be better spent on covering rhetorical fallacies.

The committee invited J. Yoo to attend the EPC member retreat in August to further discuss the FLC findings and action items.

F. Program Review Update

1. Y. Mimura reported on the Political Science final MOU exit meeting. The draft MOU had six commendations which included student engagement and collegiality among faculty and staff. The ten recommendations focused mostly on student experiences. One of the recommendations was continued development of race and ethnic politics courses to remain current with one of the significant subfields in American politics.

G. Previously Offered Experimental Topics

*The following item was informational and not voted on.*

**College of Science and Mathematics**

1. ESM 196P – Diagnostic for Mathematics (1)  
*(previously offered Summer 2019, Summer 2021, Summer 2022)*

H. Memos removing references to the Mathematics Placement Test (MPT) from the 2023-24 Catalog were **MSP approved**.

- I. The memo to remove the restriction “if required in major” from GE courses BIOL 106/L and BIOL 107/L was **MSP approved**.

J. College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

***Africana Studies***

***Course Modifications***

1. AFRS 161 – American Political Institutions: A Black Perspective (3). **MSP approved** to remove the Ethnic Studies designation, effective Fall 2023.
2. AFRS 272 – African-American History Since 1865 (3). **MSP approved** to remove the Ethnic Studies designation, effective Fall 2023.

- K. David Nazarian College of Business and Economics
1. The memo to update the minimum GPA to declare a double major in the David Nazarian College of Business and Economics from 3.0 overall GPA to good standing (2.0 overall and 2.0 CSUN GPA) was **MSP approved**.
- L. David Nazarian College of Business and Economics  
*(Returning from 3/15/23 – Originally Submitted as a Course Modification to BUS 302)*
- Systems and Operations Management***
- New Courses***
1. BUS 312 – Data Literacy for Business (3). **MSP approved**.
  2. BUS 312BH – Data Literacy for Business (3). **MSP approved**.
- Delete Courses***
3. BUS 302 – The Gateway Experience (3). **MSP approved**.
  4. BUS 302BH – The Gateway Experience (3). **MSP approved**.
- Program Modifications***
5. Business Administration, B.S. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312 for all options.
  6. Information Systems, B.S. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312 for all options.
- Accounting***
- Program Modification***
7. Accountancy, B.S. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312 for all options.
- Business Honors Program***
- Program Modification***
8. Business Honors, B.S. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302BH with BUS 312BH.
- Management***
- Program Modifications***
9. Management Minor. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312.
  10. Human Resource and Talent Management Minor. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312.
- Marketing***
- Program Modifications***
11. Interactive Marketing Minor. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312.
  12. Marketing Minor. **MSP approved** to replace BUS 302 with BUS 312.
- M. David Nazarian College of Business and Economics
1. The memo to update all course requisites from BUS 302 to BUS 312 was **MSP approved**.

- N. Revisions to the Dean's List Policy, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee and discussed at the last EPC meeting, were **MSP approved** (see **Attachment I.**)
- O. Revisions to the Standard Operating Procedures to include information about the Credit Hour Policy course certification requirements were **MSP approved**. The SOP updates to add information about requirements related to EO 1071 were **tabled** for further clarification.

### **Credit Hour Certification**

CSUN faculty will evaluate the credit hour designations for approved curriculum in regular cycles to coincide with the campus accreditation cycle. No later than one year prior to the submission of the WSUSC reaccreditation documents, each college will be required to provide a certification of all of their approved courses meeting the guidelines outlined in the [CSUN Credit Hour Policy](#). These certifications will be reviewed by the Educational Policies Committee for 000-400 level courses and the record of these certifications will be maintained by Undergraduate Studies on behalf of the University.

- P. D. Weingarten shared that he attended the Chancellor's Office webinar on AB 928 the day prior. In addition, he attended a meeting of CSU GE chairs that voted themselves the Council of GE Chairs. D. Weingarten said he would inform and consult with Faculty President M. Neubauer regarding the latest development of the council before speaking on behalf of the university and GE. [Note: D. Weingarten contacted M. Neubauer after the meeting regarding the Council of GE Chairs. D. Weingarten is authorized to participate in discussions on behalf of the faculty.]

D. Cours provided an update on the AB 928 implementation process presented at the CSU GE Informational Seminar on May 2. The Chancellor's Office will present a proposal to the Board of Trustees for a reading and vote to enact. The committee discussed concerns, including elimination of Section E, the future of upper division GE, retaining CSUN's Section F, and the impact on the Title 5 American Institutions requirement. Although CSUN currently counts American Institutions in GE, the requirement is not built into CSU General Education Breadth.

A concern was raised about the timing for the Board of Trustee 30-day comment collection period occurring during the summer when faculty are off contract. D. Weingarten asked if EPC should write a resolution to support the idea of allowing for maximum campus flexibility to evaluate the possibilities. It was also suggested that the resolution would alert other colleagues on campus about implementation concerns. T. Montañó volunteered to work on the resolution with another member of EPC. D. Weingarten said he would help and also contact A. Swenson for assistance. [On May 12, 2023, the resolution, Campus Curricular Solutions to the

Implementation of AB 928: Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021, was **MSP approved** unanimously by the faculty of EPC. The resolution was approved by the Senate Executive Committee on June 6, 2023 (See **Attachment II.**)]

- Q. The continuing discussion on General Education was postponed due to lack of time.
- R. The discussion on whether changes in AI necessitate updating the Faculty Policy on Academic Dishonesty was postponed due to lack of time.

Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

## **Attachment I: Dean's List (Undergraduate)**

Students who carry a minimum of 12 graded semester units or students who have enrolled in all available units of scheduled coursework in a cohorted\* program (CR/NC courses do not apply) and who achieve a GPA of 3.5 or better are awarded Dean's List standing for that semester.

Students whose minimum unit load includes courses from The Tseng College may apply for Dean's List standing if the Extension courses are required for the student's major and if The Tseng College courses are taught by members of CSUN's faculty. If a grade change brings a student's GPA up to 3.5, the student may apply at the Office of the Registrar to have the honor awarded retroactively.

Students working on second undergraduate degrees or graduate degrees are not eligible for Dean's List awards.

\*A program in which a group of students, also known as a cohort, start the program together in the same semester and year, are enrolled in the same set of courses together each semester, and finish the program at the same time.

**Attachment II: Resolution Campus Curricular Solutions to the Implementation of AB 928: Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021**

Resolved, that the Faculty of California State University, Northridge (CSUN) recognize that AB 928 speaks only to transfer curricula and transfer admissions standards, and requires no changes to CSU GE Breadth or the curriculum for first-time freshmen; and be it

Resolved that the CSUN Faculty insist that the Chancellor's Office pursue any changes to CSU GE Breadth separately from any changes to transfer curriculum and transfer admissions standards in Title 5;

Resolved, that the CSUN Faculty insist that the Chancellor's Office not conflate the timeline for adoption of the new Cal-GETC framework mandated by AB 928 with any timeline for revisions to CSU GE Breadth; and be it

Resolved, that the CSUN Faculty insist that the Chancellor's Office pursue any potential changes to CSU GE Breadth through a broad consultative process led by the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) beginning no sooner than Fall 2023; and be it finally

Resolved, that this resolution be distributed to:

CSU Board of Trustees

Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester

Executive Vice Chancellor Sylvia Alva

President Erica Beck

Provost Meera Komarraju

Nathan Evans, Associate Vice Chancellor & Chief of Staff, Academic and Student Affairs

Dilcie Perez, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs, Equity and Belonging

Laura Massa, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic and Faculty Programs

Academic Senate of the California State University

Council of CSU Senate Chairs

GE Council

Chancellor's General Education Advisory Committee

Resolved that the faculty of California State University, Northridge insist that the Chancellor's Office allow each campus adequate time to evaluate the array of solutions and arrive at one that will work best for their students' and their institution's unique strengths and abilities, and bring their curriculum into alignment with AB 928.

Resolved that the faculty of California State University, Northridge ask that the Chancellor's Office not prescribe solutions or complicate the integration of the law by adding system-level curricular restrictions.



Resolved that the faculty of California State University, Northridge ask that the Chancellor's Office remove the upper division restrictions placed on General Education by EO 1100R, allowing individual campuses to re-evaluate upper division requirements in order to have maximum flexibility to bring curriculum into alignment with the new law, while continuing to provide students with the affordable high-quality education that has become the CSU brand.

Resolved that the faculty at California State University, Northridge believe that each campus should be given the freedom to explore multiple pathways for first-time freshmen and transfer students if the faculty determine this the best way to keep the university in alignment with the law, while preserving the unique strengths that reside in each campus.

Resolved that the Faculty of California State University, Northridge ask the Chancellor's Office for additional curricular freedom and adequate time to develop our solution before the end of the Fall 2023 semester, which would afford us the time required to implement curriculum to keep us in alignment before the Fall 2025 deadline.

### **Rationale**

The Chancellor's office seeks implementation of AB 928 by Fall 2025 and key roadmaps for said implementation are sorely lacking leaving faculty waiting for a clear interpretation on the intent of AB 928 by the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS).

In accordance with the charter of the CSU and the established rules of faculty governance, curriculum is the property of the collective faculty of each university and that CSU faculty are off contract until August 2023 further delaying the development of faculty-driven implementation plans.

The faculty will be expected to evaluate the requirements as established by ICAS and quickly develop curricular solutions that keep our university in compliance with the laws of the State of California and that faculty must have adequate time to evaluate appropriate solutions to keep their curriculum in compliance with the law.

The faculty of California State University, Northridge believe that the strength of the CSU and the California State public education system lies in the differences between our campuses and our varied strengths permitting students to choose the campus that best meets their individual aspirations and that the curricular strengths of each campus has developed over time in response to student changing needs, and that faculty are primarily responsible for curriculum alignment.