

EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES

WEEK 4; Tuesday September 11, 2012; in Swenson Hall of Geosciences, conference room (#103)

Members in attendance: Brandon Metoyer, Catherine McDermott, Danilo Bruno, David Dehnel, Ellen Hay, Greg Domski, Kristin Douglas, Liesl Fowler, Michael Wolf, Robert Elflin, Taddy Kalas, Tim Bloser, Umme Al-Wazedi

Others Present: Gail Parsons

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Committee Chair Mike Wolf

I. Minutes from September 4, 2012 meeting:

Motion to approve: Catherine McDermott

seconded: Robert Elflin

All Approved

II. Old Business:

December 14, 2010

Further Discussion to be noted on future Agenda:

What is the actual charge of the EPC Committee; Are the EPC guidelines being met; Constitutional responsibility of faculty to be in charge of curriculum; Proactive behavior /not reactive; Certificate Programs; Concern with new instructor course syllabus development

September 4, 2012

EPC Chair reminded members to be proactive and submit concerns to the Chair to be included on Agenda.

Concerns to be considered:

1. Review definition of on-line and blended learning (Greg Domski will report on the Sloan definition to help define Augustana definition)
2. Adopting learning goals
3. What is the part of EPC to aid with College learning outcomes process
4. Will EPC be consulted by the college to help develop course learning objectives
Aid in proposing a structure to process learning objectives, preparing forms for assessment, propose assessment tools to be used – should a committee be established to focus on assessment
5. How is Senior Inquiry monitored and is there a common model
Are students benefiting from experience of Senior Inquiry
How are faculty prepared to aid students in Senior Inquiry
Do all departments have common expectations
Is Senior Inquiry uniform across campus
Is time spent on Senior Inquiry comparable in all departments

Ellen Hay will forward student focus information to EPC Chair for review

August 28, 2012

C. new course ACCT 203: Advanced Spreadsheet Applications (5 weeks, 1 cr)

Drs. John Delaney and Daniel Conway were present

(see details in prior minutes)

Action:

The EPC Committee has moved to table. EPC Chair has requested that instructors work with Ellen Hay (Chair of Assessment Committee) to improve:

Action to table: Ellen Hay seconded: Rob Elflin

Motion to table approved by majority

Ellen Hay met with John Delaney to request more detail of learning objectives and assessment goals for ACCT 203. She shared some on-line examples of processes to evaluate goals and student participation for on-line courses. She offered to meet again if needed.

III. New Business

- A. Consent Agenda from GenEd: (See old Business Sept. 4, 2012)
PH for revised course, MATH 350, Modern Geometry (Katz)

Discussion:

- Concern with broad interpretation for acceptance of course suffix approval
- Consider recommendation to revisit course suffix after time or change of instructor
- Suffix is to serve a purpose for students to take courses in different departments
- Concern with philosophy of accepting suffix approval

Motion to remove from table: David Dehnel seconded: Tim Bloser

All Approved

Motion to resubmit to agenda and approve PH for revised course, Math 350, Modern Geometry (Katz): Ellen Hay seconded: Greg Dowski

All Approved

EPC Chair will forward to Senate

- B. Discussion for Senior Inquiry

- Background
Research of offering SI Funded through Teagle Foundation
Worked with Wooster, Allegheny and Washington College to review their Senior Inquiry experience
3 year grant / for 2 years a number of pre-post survey of both students and faculty, focus groups of students, faculty and administrators
President Bahl's felt we were well situated as a Liberal Arts college to promote student research through SI
- Concern:
Faculty workloads and faculty staffing / What is the required number of students
Would administration consider removing SI from departments
Students with double majors may select to do only one SI
Students overload of more than one SI in same term
Should every student be required SI
How ambitious is SI to be for students
Is this to be a reflection of what the student is to do in the profession of the major / What is the reflection component
Disparity in projects can happen between departments and within departments
What is the goal of Senior Inquiry
Is this an undergraduate research program
How many terms should be considered for SI
Should SI be rigorous and substantial in-depth of focus in the major
Encourage common requirements across departments
What are standards of SI
Departments have not articulated purpose for how SI fits within their programs
Costs of Research for SI
Is there ongoing monitoring within departments and established structure for SI
Is SI a skill demonstrating that inquiry skill in the major
Is SI in-depth into one particular topic
Is the SI substantial in meaning and impact
Is there a need for public presentations of SI
- Action
Currently there is no SI committee

Establish policy of SI and consider another committee to monitor SI

To select members of EPC to draft a new charge for SI policy that will be brought back to EPC Committee for review and discussion. Proposed consideration of committee will be setting guidelines for SI, request Division representatives to review SI, and should a committee be formed to oversee SI.

Also, it was mentioned the committee would consult with the Natural Science and Fine Arts Divisions for input.

Motion to elect EPC members David Dehnel, Greg Domski, Robert Elflin, and Catherine McDermott to draft a charge for SI: David Dehnel seconded: Taddy Kalas
All Approved

Additional discussion:

Registrar Liesl Fowler requested the calendar approval through 2018-2019 be considered on the agenda for next meeting. She will submit documentation for review. Current location for graduation is to be considered for renewal.

Motion to adjourn meeting 5:35 p.m.

Next Meeting Tuesday September 18, 2012