

## EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE

September 30, 2008

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Hellstedt Room

MINUTES

**Members Present:** Jeff Abernathy, Dan Cortis, Patrick Crawford, Ann Ericson, Liesl Fowler, Stephanie Hortsman, Rick Jaeschke, Taddy Kalas, Adam Kaul, Mary Koski, Nancy Loitz, Josh Morgan, Ritva Williams, Michael Wolf

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.

### **AGENDA ITEM I – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion-Wolf, Second-Crawford APPROVED**

**“To approve the minutes of the September 16, 2008 Educational Policies Committee meeting as presented.”**

### **AGENDA ITEM II – NEW BUSINESS**

A. LSFY 102 Conversions from LS 111

These proposals are being presented as a result of the reconfiguration of the LS sequence which was passed almost two years ago. The conversions are in two categories: those that were fall courses now in winter term (conversions from LS 111). The conversion approval form for those needed to incorporate how the course addresses the overarching question for winter term and how the course ties into the term’s common features. The conversion approval forms for conversions from LS 112 needed to only address the overarching question. Proposals from Kalas, Bonzon, and Youngberg tabled by Gen Ed, but are present at EPC today, as missing information has been incorporated since Gen Ed’s meeting. The committee was reminded that all these proposals are in draft form. All syllabi will be revised and will contain common language throughout before the courses begin. This process is being closely monitored by Jeff Coussens who deserves much credit for his diligent effort in the conversion process.

**Motion-Cortis, Second-Williams APPROVED**

**“To approve LSFY 102 Conversions from LS 111 for the following:**

- 1. From Myth to Music (Hall)**
- 2. From Ruins to Runes (Kaul)**
- 3. From Love to Justice (Kramer)**
- 4. From Icons to Koans (Melaas-Swanson)”**

B. LSFY 102 Conversions from LS 112

**Motion-Jaeschke, Second-Crawford APPROVED**

**“To approve LSFY 102 Conversions from LS 112 for the following:**

- 1. From Poverty to Prosperity (Bengtson)**
- 2. From the Enlightenment to the French Revolution (Ellis)**
- 3. From Leonardo da Vinci to Andy Warhol (Goebel)**
- 4. From Blind Faith to Reasoned Believe (Jesson)**
- 5. From Religion to Reason (Seidlitz)**
- 6. From Papyrus to Pixels (Snowball)”**

C. New Course Requests – LSFY 102

**Motion-Morgan Second-Crawford APPROVED**

**“To approve the following new course requests for LSFY 102 as presented:**

- 1. From Satyrs to Spamalot (Coussens)**
- 2. From Homer to Hawkes (Day)**
- 3. From Bach to Rock (Elfline)**
- 4. From Aristotle to Newton (Hill)**
- 5. From Alexander to Alexandria (Hooker)**
- 6. From Sound to Fury (Irelan)**
- 7. From Cave to Cape (Lewis)**
- 8. From Sweden to America (Lindgren)**
- 9. From Tradition to Subversion (Malech)**
- 10. From Sacred to Sordid (Rosenberg)**
- 11. From Valinor to Middle-earth (Scott)**
- 12. From Hades to Hell (Skrainka)**
- 13. From Rumi to Dante (Zargar)”**

D. Proposals Pending Gen Ed Consideration

**Motion-Ericson Second-Corts APPROVED**

**“To approve the following course conversions pending Gen Ed approval as presented:**

- 1. From Shakespeare to Virginia Woolf (Youngberg)**
- 2. From Achilles to Aristotle (Bonzon)**
- 3. From Manic to Manicured (Kalas)**

## E. Learning Community Approval

**Motion-Hortsman, Second-Ericson APPROVED**

**“To approve the Learning Community Proposal for Intercultural Communication and Experiential Education: Focus on Australia – SPCM 300 (Intercultural Communication) and BUSN-INTRO-AKP (International Internship Seminar: Australia) as presented.”**

### Learning Communities Discussion

In light of the October 4<sup>th</sup> learning community workshop, a discussion of how to better support learning communities evolved. Tim Schermer and Nancy Loitz created a spreadsheet to estimate a budget for the learning community incentive proposal which allows faculty to earn one banked course credit for each learning community class they taught. After earning three banked credits, the faculty member must take a course release. The estimated cost of this for year one would be \$65,000, and years after that, the cost swings wildly year-to-year. The estimated maximum cost possible in any given year is \$210,000. This proposal comes at a time when the administration is considering several competing needs on campus....the need for new positions.....possibility of load reductions.....faculty salaries and benefits, etc. Jeff asked the EPC committee how they might suggest these issues be addressed and how to engage the faculty as a whole on setting priorities. Some EPC members felt that the reluctance of faculty to offer a LC is not the lack of compensation, but rather, faculty would rather have fewer classes to teach, i.e., 6 instead of 7. Another reason more learning communities haven't transpired is because faculty just haven't tried pairing up with someone. In addition, some faculty do not have the flexibility in their schedule to offer learning communities even if they desired, for instance in music.

Liesl Fowler indicated that there remains a problem getting the learning community requirement fulfilled by this year's senior class; that there remain approximately 95 seats short. The faculty continue to receive encouragement from Nancy Loitz to bring forward new learning community proposals. Ritva Williams mentioned as a short-term solution, that if AS&D is offering the two LP substitutions for lack of a learning community again this year, the Religion Department has a large number of classes that are available this year that would satisfy the LP requirement.

EPC came to agreement that the Division meetings on October 30<sup>th</sup> should have the learning community discussion/Evergreen committee proposal on their agenda. In November, a faculty forum would then be called to determine if the faculty endorse for the Evergreen proposal. Jeff will also suggest to faculty senate to call a forum on both the learning community and budget issues. Liesl will poll advisors and have on hand what the estimated numbers are for seniors who will not have fit a learning community into their schedule this year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski