Minutes

Present: Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Thomas Berfield, Loren Bode, Cheston Brauer, Jo Duchene (ex officio), Phillip Geil, Joseph Goldberg, Kristi Kuntz (ex officio designee), Faye Lesht (ex officio), Carol Malmgren (observer), John Marden, Keith Marshall (ex officio designee), Leslie Struble, Laird Thompson, Daniel Walsh, Kevin Waspi, Chet Zych (ex officio)

Absent: Ariel Avila, Andrew Hamilton, Susan Lamb, David Kovacic, Claire Pedersen, Kelly Tappenden, Kenneth Watkin

Guests: Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, Head of the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health; Ayanna Coleman, Intern in the Provost’s office; Bo Fernhall, Associate Dean, Kinesiology and Community Health Administration; Bill Maher, Chair of the Senate Committee on University Statutes & Senate Procedures, University Library Archivist; Ann Mester, Associate Dean, LAS Administration; Lucy Rich, Assistant Dean, LAS Administration

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy convened at 1:15 p.m. in Room 232 of the English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Approval of the Minutes

Zych made two editorial changes to the Minutes of March 26, 2007; also the secretary apologizes for inadvertently omitting Kevin Waspi from the list of those present. The Minutes were approved as amended.

II. Remarks of the Chair

Bill Maher, Chair of the Senate Committee on University Statutes & Senate Procedures — Discussion regarding the definition of “Programs” Chair Aminmansour reported that he had met late last year with Provost Katehi, Ruth Watkin, Keith Marshall, Kristi Kuntz, and Vernon Burton to discuss the definition of a “Program” and how it differs from a department. He added that although this issue has been discussed by the EPC several times in the past we still do not have a clear definition of a “Program.” Aminmansour further noted that the distinction between a department and program is not clear, in particular, when it comes to issues such as holding faculty lines or being tenure home, budget, offering courses and degrees, etc. Aminmansour introduced Bill Maher, Chair of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures, saying he had been invited to today’s meeting in order to hear some of our ideas on this issue. Aminmansour stated that a “Program” is often viewed as having a finite life or as being a transition into a department often by becoming a program first, or a subunit of a school. Marshall thought a “Program” can contribute to a theme or research area. Mester noted that some existing programs have faculty lines and some do not; also programs do not go through IBHE approval. Geil sited an instance in his Polymers group regarding interdisciplinary curriculum and wondered if that should have been referred to as a program. Mester reported three examples of programs: (1) The Illinois Program for Research (Research with no faculty lines, sponsors events on Campus); (2) Ethnic Studies Units (Provost Herman set in place in 2004 and the Chancellor granted enhanced rights); and Medieval Studies (primarily research, graduate concentrations, curricular plan at graduate level). Aminmansour pointed out that the Provost’s office is presently establishing a list of existing programs that were not processed through the Senate but will soon be reviewed by the EPC. He reminded members that this is a friendly step as we will not question validity but will simply verify their existence and make their existence stronger. These programs will continue to exist; hopefully the process will empower them to flourish.

When provided with the opportunity to comment, Maher emphasized that the issue arose last year as USSP dealt with the issue of what kind of approval process was necessary for the creation, deletion, merger, or separation of departments. He noted that one by-product of that discussion was the realization that no set of rules would work unless we also clarified two other things: the definition of an academic unit and the clarification of the notion of a tenure home. Maher further emphasized that USSP felt fairly strongly that any tenured or tenure track faculty needs to have a tenure home in a department or unit that had bylaws etc. and which was created through a senate approval process and could only be eliminated by such a process. As to the Educational Policy Committee's difficult problem of dealing with programs, he suggested that USSP could only be of help once Ed Policy and the relevant administrators did some sort of surveying of the landscape of what kinds of programs exist presently and then identified what of those elements needed to be incorporated into any statutory definition of a “program.”
III. Old Business

EP.06.32, Proposed guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees (USC OT-218), letter from Elliot R. Kaufman, Chair of University Senates Conference  This issue will be discussed on April 9 when guests are present to join our discussion.

Review and discussion of the three Leadership proposals

Since Committee members had just received the revisions to the three Leadership proposals, discussion will be held until a later date.

EP.07.10, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a Joint Degree Program involving the Civic Leadership Concentration, Masters of Arts in Political Science and the Juris Doctorate, College of LAS and College of LAW

EP.07.11, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a Graduate Concentration in Civic Leadership within the M.A. in Political Science

EP.07.12, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences requesting the establishment of a Civic Leadership Program in Political Science

Subcommittees

Subcommittee A

EP.07.18, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise the Undergraduate Minor in Atmospheric Sciences  Bode reported that this proposal had been previously withdrawn; however, the department has recently made revisions and forwarded the proposal back to this committee. He found the revisions straight-forward and moved approval; Zych seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee B

EP.07.44, Proposal from the College of LAS requesting the establishment of an Honors Concentration to the Major in Science and Letters Curriculum in Molecular and Cellular Biology  Although the subcommittee had recently received revisions, apparently the subcommittee still has some concerns over coursework.

Subcommittee C

EP.07.16, Revised Guidelines for Undergraduate Minors  Dean Rich reported that she does have some recent revisions to the guidelines; this issue will be discussed at a later date.

IV. New Business

Subcommittee A

EP.07.45, Terminate the Non-Teaching Minor in Instructional Applications of Computers, College of EDUC  Bode noted that since there are presently no students in this program, he moved for approval; Goldberg seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.46, Terminate the Teacher Education Minors in Biology, Chemistry, Cinema Studies, Computer Science, Earth Science, English, French, General Science, German, History, Italian, Latin, Physical Science, Physics, Portuguese, Psychology, Rhetoric, Russian, Social Studies, Spanish and Women’s Studies, College of LAS  Bode noted that this proposal is to terminate 21 minors; since all minors will be in a phase down process, he moved for approval; Zych seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.51, Rename the Minor in Gender and Women’s Studies Program to the Interdisciplinary Minor in Gender and Women’s Studies, College of LAS  Bode noted that the Statement for the Bulletin has recently been replaced; therefore he moved for approval. Geil seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee B
EP.07.47, Revision to the Teacher Education Minor in Mathematics Grades 6-8, College of LAS

Geil reported that originally he had found the Geometry requirements, which were written by the Illinois State Board, very confusing; however, these have since been qualified by Chet Zych. Geil moved for approval; Goldberg seconded the motion.

The proposals were unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.48, Revision to the Teacher Education Minor in Mathematics Grades 9-12, College of LAS

Geil reported that originally he had found the Geometry requirements, which were written by the Illinois State Board, very confusing; however, these have since been qualified by Chet Zych. Geil moved for approval; Goldberg seconded the motion.

The proposals were unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.49, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish an Artist Diploma in Music, College of FAA

Goldberg moved approval on behalf of Subcommittee C; Walsh seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.50, Revise and Rename the Interdisciplinary Minor in Gerontology, College of Applied Health Sciences

Geil noted that the department has forwarded the requested revisions; therefore, he made a motion for approval. Goldberg seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.51, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish a Master of Public Health Degree in the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, College of Applied Health Sciences

Geil expressed his concerns that this proposal is requesting eleven additional staff members. Kuntz noted that this program has the total support of the Provost office. The Chair asked Kuntz to submit a written commitment as to the necessary resources to be included with the proposal. Chodzko-Zajko reported that since the merging of the Departments of Community Health and Kinesiology (approved by the Senate 11/1/2004), they have gone from having three tenure track faculty to hiring five additional faculty; the department wants students to continue to grow in the program and has plans for eight new hires and new course development by fall. He feels that this is a great opportunity to give students a competitive education. Geil pointed out that since this program is self-supporting it is ultimately costly. Despite the cost, Chodzko-Zajko thought it to be a good value for the money; there is a demand for good students and students are willing to pay premium for this education. Fernhall reported that there is a clear need for more qualified people in Public Health in the State of Illinois due to rapidly expanding populations of older individuals and citizens with disabilities. Geil made a motion to approve pending receipt of editorial changes and letter of commitment from Provost’s office for funding. Goldberg seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Chair Aminmansour recognized Wojtek Chodzko-Zaiko, Bo Fernhall and Dean Gallagher for their excellent collaboration and leadership during the review of the proposed merging of Community Health and Kinesiology. Chodzko-Zaiko in turn thanked the EPC for their assistance as he thought it had ultimately made the department more successful.

Subcommittee C

EP.07.49, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish an Artist Diploma in Music, College of FAA

Goldberg moved approval on behalf of Subcommittee C; Walsh seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.52, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish Graduate Concentrations within the degree Master of Music, College of FAA

Geil sited the occasional reference to major instead of concentration; on page 4 it should read “you may substitute Music 528, Problems and Methods with Music 511 or Music 512;” and on bottom of page 2, it should read “and complete the requirements.” Berfield referred to the first page and noted an instance where the course list is not consistent with the appendix. Bode made a motion for approval pending receipt of a revised proposal; Walsh seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.07.53, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish Graduate Concentrations within the degree Doctor of Musical Arts, College of FAA

Goldberg reported that the course hours do not tally; he will contact the sponsor as to this discrepancy.

V. Pending Items (Waiting to hear from sponsors.)

Timing of mid-semester grade reports for freshmen (to be discussed in Spring 2007)

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy