Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Monday, October 18, 2004

Minutes

Present:  Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Hassen Al-Shawaf, Loren Bode, Bettina M. Francis, Phillip Geil, Joseph Goldberg, Eve Harwood (ex officio), Faye Lesht (ex officio), Keith Marshall (observer), Dick Mintel, H. F. Williamson, Chet Zych (ex officio designee)

Absent:  Matthew Ando, Karen Carney (ex officio), Karen Chapman-Novakofski, Michele Crockett, Derek Chan, Dan Peterson, Alice Poehls (ex officio designee), Nina Tarr, Laura Tyler, Ruth V. Watkins (ex officio designee)

Guest:  Lucy Rich

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 of the Meeting of October 4, 2004

The minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2004 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair

Chair Aminmansour reported that a meeting of the Academic Calendar Task Group will be held on Monday, October 25. Also, at a recent meeting of the Senate Executive Committee it was noted that the November 1 Senate Agenda (which is established by the SEC) lists at least six EPC proposals for Senate approval.

III. Old Business

Subcommittee B

EP.05.03, Proposal from the Colleges of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Applied Life Studies; Business; Education; and Engineering to establish a Leadership Minor. The Chair reported that Kirby Barrick has not yet received letters from all of the Colleges participating in this Leadership Minor; this proposal will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

IV. New Business

None

V. Pending Items

EP.05.06, Midterm Grade Issues  This item was not discussed.

Subcommittees:

Subcommittee C

EP.04.40, Proposed Changes to the Code pertaining to “Institutional Credit” and “Transfer Credit”. Geil reported that several members of the Subcommittee met last week to discuss this issue and came up with a few recommendations (handout) which he shared with the Committee. He noted that the original cover letter from Michael McCulley, Chair of A&A Deans 2003-04, mentioned institutional credit; however, it was not mentioned in the actual proposal. It was noted that it may be time for the CCG (Conference on Conduct Governance) to re-evaluate the residency requirement; uninterrupted study prevents a student from taking a summer course at another institution unless given departmental approval. Marshall pointed out that he has been maintaining for the past two years that it is impossible to distinguish between institutional credit and residency. Rich said that it is a very fundamental question, “What constitutes an education here at the University of Illinois?” Aminmansour pointed out that we do not need to restrict ourselves to what was mentioned in McCulley’s memo. Goldberg thought it important to hold firm to on-campus instruction as it is the interfacing with faculty and other students that is very unique and the most important thing that the University brings to the table.

Rich pointed out that UIUC does not have a statute of limitations on finishing an undergraduate degree. She has found that retired individuals are returning to our campus after forty years to fulfill
their life-time ambition to finish their degree. Geil asked for the committee’s interpretation of the word “uninterrupted.” Rich pointed out that when these requirements were originally written there was no such thing as uninterrupted study or even community colleges. Chair Aminmansour appointed a small subcommittee to prepare a new proposal: Phillip Geil, Faye Lesht, and Lucy Rich. Eve Harwood will communicate with the A & A Deans for any possible feedback; it was also noted that the CCG be brought back into the discussions.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Approved as written.