Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, November 15, 2004

Minutes

Present: Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Matthew Ando, Loren Bode, Karen Carney (ex officio), Bettina M. Francis, Phillip Geil, Joseph Goldberg, Eve Harwood (ex officio), Faye Lesht (ex officio), Dick Mintel, Dan Peterson, Alice Poehls (ex officio designee), Nina Tarr, H. F. Williamson, Chet Zych (ex officio)

Absent: Hassen Al-Shawaf, Karen Chapman-Novakofski, Michele Crockett, Derek Chan, Keith Marshall (observer), Laura Tyler, Ruth V. Watkins (ex officio designee)

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy convened at 1:10 p.m. in Room 232 of the English Building with Chair Abbas Aminmansour presiding.

I. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 18, 2004

The minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2004 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair

Chair Aminmansour thanked everyone who attended the Senate meeting on November 1 and voiced their support of the proposal from the College of ALS for the Merger of the Departments of Community Health and Kinesiology (EP.04.38). Williamson in turn expressed his admiration for how Aminmansour had supported the discussion.

The Chair asked the Committee to revisit the issue of receiving proposals electronically opposed to hard copy. He stressed that there are times when forwarding proposals via e-mail would be more time efficient. Francis thought this may be a challenge for her old office printer, but did agree to electronic versions if the proposals were short. There was discussion of possibly setting up a different Web address for the EPC; Peterson volunteered to help make such a change.

Aminmansour announced that the Senate Office has a new URL (http://www.senate.uiuc.edu/) and thought it to be a lot more intuitive.

III. Old Business

Subcommittees:

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 This proposal is still under consideration in the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee C

EP.04.40, Proposed Changes to the Code pertaining to “Institutional Credit” and “Transfer Credit” Geil reported that the Subcommittee is still reviewing these proposed changes.

IV. New Business

Subcommittees:

Subcommittee A

EP.05.10, Proposal to transfer the Bachelor of Arts in Music from the College of LAS to the School of Music in the College of FAA Harwood gave an overview of proposal EP.05.10 saying that it is an historical situation whereby students are not necessarily clear as to their college home. The intention is that the degree be housed in the college where the majority of the courses are taught. The committee discussed several editorial revisions. Poehls pointed out that this is a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Music.

The proposal was unanimously approved with editorial changes to be forwarded to the Senate on December 6.
EP.05.12, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the Graphic Design Undergraduate Curriculum in the School of Art & Design  Harwood reported that there would be more proposals of this type coming to the EPC in the near future in an effort to reflect the changes in the nature of the disciplines. It is no longer a “one size fits all;” students need choices. Poehls pointed out that this is a BFA with a major in Graphic Design and suggested that the word curriculum be removed. The committee members held a discussion and pointed out several editorial revisions. The proposal was unanimously approved with editorial changes.

Subcommittee B

EP.05.08, Proposal from the College of LAS to discontinue the Science and Letters Curriculum in Finance Williamson had several procedural questions and suggested that the proposal include a letter of support from the Department of Economics. Discussion on this proposal has been tabled.

EP.05.09, Proposal from the College of FAA, Department of Urban and Regional Planning to create a Minor in Urban Planning  Harwood explained that the College is not anticipating a large number of students in this program; however, the department is interested in offering students more choices. After a short discussion, a motion was made and seconded that this proposal be referred back to the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee C

EP.05.11, Proposal from the College of LAS & Department of Statistics for revised degree requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Statistics  Geil found no justification for this proposal; there was no listing of what courses are required and when they must be taken. It was noted that the TA salaries included in the proposal are not appropriate and should be removed. Also, a suggestion was made that pages one and two include some extra spacing between paragraphs. Zych questioned how the total hours required had been tallied. Geil will communicate these suggested changes to the sponsoring department.

V. Pending Items

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

VI. Other Business

EP.05.13, Proposal from the College of Veterinary Medicine to effect a departmental name change from the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology to the Department of Pathobiology  The Chair referred to proposal EP.05.13, which had been distributed at the door, and assigned it to Subcommittee A for review. It was announced that Loren Bode would be on sabbatical next semester and asked for a volunteer to chair the subcommittee at that time. The Chair mentioned that he has asked Ruth Watkins to speak to the EPC on the new University 101 Initiative at its next meeting scheduled for January 31. Apparently this is a course for new freshman on University life and is the result of a recommendation to redesign orientation on our campus. This Initiative includes discussion on the meaning of academic integrity, library issues, time management, etc.

Aminmansour reported that there is another departmental merger (between Industrial and General Engineering) on the horizon. He has been in contact with Dean David Daniel and has encouraged him to obtain a vote from those faculty members affected by the merger.

The Academic Calendar Task Group will hold its last scheduled meeting on Monday, December 6.

VII. Adjournment

The Chair thanked everyone for their work this semester and wished everyone happy holidays. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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