Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, April 10, 2006

Minutes

Present: Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Karen Carney (ex officio), Karen Chapman-Novakofski, Bo Fernhall (ex officio), Bettina M. Francis, Phillip Geil, Joseph Goldberg, Stuart Karaffa, Melissa Kennedy, Kristi Kuntz (ex officio designee), Carol Malmgren (observer), Lucy Rich (observer), Kelly Tappenden, H. F. Williamson, Chet Zych (ex officio)

Absent: Linda Beale, Thomas Berfield, Loren Bode, Stephen Boppart, Michele Crockett, Joe Danavi, Faye Lesht (ex officio), Keith Marshall (ex officio designee), Leslie Struble, Kenneth Watkin, Jason Webber

Guests: Wayne Banwart, Interim Associate Dean, Academic Programs, NRES (Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, ACES; Mark David, Professor, NRES, ACES; Wesley Jarrell, Head, NRES, ACES; Ann Mester, Assistant Dean, LAS Administration; Bruce Rhoads, Professor, Geography, LAS; William Simmons, Acting Assistant Dean, Academic Programs, ACES; Donald Wuebbles, Executive Coordinator, LAS Administration

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

The minutes of the meeting of April 3, 2006 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair

Chair Aminmansour noted that this meeting would be cut short as the Senate Executive Committee had scheduled a meeting for 2:10 p.m.; however, it would be an important meeting since it is the final day to approve items to be forwarded to the Senate on April 24.

III. Old Business

EP.06.21, Proposal to Establish the BSLAS in Earth Systems, Environment, and Society in LAS

Professor Jarrell shared his observations of the proposal to establish the BSLAS in Earth Systems, Environment, and Society in LAS citing duplicate programs between the Colleges of LAS and ACES as the most important issue. He was not sure of the extent of the overlap, but said he was especially concerned about the number of courses to be spread out over several colleges. Professor Wuebbles distributed copies of his report to the EPC covering possible concerns and walked members through the handout. He also presented the Chair with a copy of the Advising Manual for the Program. Wuebbles pointed out that he has viewed any interaction with NRES as complimentary and did not foresee any conflict between the majors. The Chair pointed out that course overlap is not necessarily a bad thing; however, he asked members to consider if the proposal is applicable or if perhaps it presents a glaring problem. Dean Banwart thought good advising was the answer. Professor Rhoads pointed out that the College of LAS has drawn upon the strengths of many departments within the College to create this program; whereas, NRES is just one department. After the guests departed, the Committee members agreed that they were not ready to make a decision on this proposal.

Subcommittee B

EP.05.31, Proposal from the College of Business for Revision of the Curriculum for the Department of Business Administration

The recent revisions were distributed in the meeting packet; however, the Committee is still waiting for additional information.

IV. New Business

Subcommittees:

Subcommittee A

EP.06.40, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to establish an undergraduate minor in Art History

Tappenden reported that this proposal was submitted in the wrong format; therefore, it is presently on hold.
EP.06.42, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to change the degree title from Ed.D. to Ph.D. in Art Education Tappenden explained that the present degree does not resemble an Ed.D.; therefore, she made a motion for approval of this change.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee B

EP.06.41, Proposal from the College of LAS to establish a Graduate Minor in African American Studies

The department forwarded revisions (distributed at the door) as requested by the subcommittee. A motion was made and seconded that this proposal be approved.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.06.43, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the Core Curriculum for the Master of Architecture Degree Requested revisions were distributed at the door; a motion for approval was made and seconded.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee C

EP.06.36, Proposal from the College of business to revise the undergraduate curriculum for the B.S. in Finance Zych suggested revisions to the Statement for Programs of Study Catalog as to core requirements. A motion was made and seconded that the proposal be approved with recommended changes.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate pending receipt of changes.

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

EP.06.32, Proposed guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees (USC OT-218), letter from Elliot R. Kaufman, Chair of University Senates Conference

EP.06.35, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to create the School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics

Subcommittee A

EP.06.29, Proposal from the College of Education to establish graduate majors that correspond to the names of each six departments that currently offer programs leading to graduate degrees

Subcommittee B

EP.06.20, Proposal from the college of ACES for approval to drop the Minor in Fiber Science currently offered by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES)

Subcommittee C

EP.06.25, Proposal from the Graduate College to revise the program leading to the Master of Social Work

VI. Other Business and Adjournment

Malmgren showed the committee a University diploma that was issued in 1926; it was noted that the diploma did not specify which campus had issued the diploma. She urged the committee members to weigh very carefully any decisions they make in regard to the long-term effects of multi-institutional degrees (EP.06.32).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.