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. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Aminmansour welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. Remarks of the Chair
No remarks were given.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 2, 2005
The Minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2005 were approved as written.

IV. Old Business
Previously approved to forward to the Senate in September
The Chair reported that several proposals (listed below) were previously approved by the Educational Policy Committee in the spring. Proposal EP.05.29 will be forwarded to the Senate in October, the remaining proposals in September.

EP.05.27, Proposal from the College of LAS to rename and revise the Interdisciplinary Minor in Russian and East European Studies

EP.05.28, Proposal from the College of LAS to rename and revise the Science and Letters Curriculum in Russian and East European Studies

EP.05.22, Proposal from the College of Engineering to Transfer the Industrial Engineering Program from the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering to the Department of General Engineering and Rename the Two Departments

EP.05.29, Guidelines for the Academic Calendar
To bring new members up-to-date, Aminmansour reported that last year the Committee had taken an extensive look at previously established academic calendar guidelines and the effects on the fall semester. He gave an overview of the Committee’s recommendations as follows: the fall semester would start on a Monday, never beginning before August 22 or ending after December 22; the semester would end on a Wednesday; Reading Day would fall on a Thursday; and there would be no final exams on the weekend. Prior to its submission to the Senate, Aminmansour plans to obtain letters of support from campus offices who might be affected by these proposed changes (e.g. Center for Teacher Excellence, Housing, Registrar, and other scheduling offices).

Zych questioned whether or not EP.05.22 (Proposal from the College of Engineering to Transfer the Industrial Engineering Program from the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering to the Department of General Engineering and Rename the Two Departments) had been approved pending strong suggestions. (According to the minutes of April 25, 2005, the proposal was approved with the strong recommendation that the Dean of Engineering appoint a facilitator(s) and committee of current IE and GE faculty to formulate the proposed bylaws and curricula of the new department prior to submission of the proposal to the Senate.)

The Chair announced that the new Subcommittee list will be distributed as soon as available; each subcommittee is assigned proposals to review and is welcome to meet either virtually or in person. He also
announced that the committee meeting previously scheduled for November 21 has been removed from the calendar.

V. New Business

Subcommittees:

Subcommittee A

EP.06.03, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for the Establishment of a graduate minor in Cinema Studies  Carney confirmed that this proposal meets the criteria for the graduate minor. Zych thought the proposal was very well done. Geil moved for approval; Francis seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.06.04, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for renaming the M.A. degree program Russian and East European Studies to Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies  Carney pointed out that this proposal is strictly a name change. Beale moved for approval; Francis seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee B

EP.06.01, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts for the establishment of a Jazz Performance Major within the existing Bachelor of Music degree  Zych noted that while he found the proposal well-written, but thought that the Statement for the Catalog needs work. He will advise the secretary of suggested changes for submission to the department.

EP.06.02, Proposal from the College of Engineering for a joint BS/MS program in Materials Science and Engineering  Zych said he thought the proposal was excellently submitted. Geil moved for approval; Beale seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee C

EP.05.31, Proposal from the College of Business for Revision of the Curriculum for the Department of Business Administration  Williamson noted that he was uncomfortable with approving this proposal today. The Chair will invite members of the sponsoring department to attend our next committee meeting. Williamson said he would like to see descriptions of minors. Zych thought that when several different programs are substantially involved, they should each be consulted.

VI. Pending Items

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  Since Kirby Barrick has left the University, committee members were perplexed as to who would be the new sponsor and expressed concerns as to its longevity without Barrick’s support.

EP.04.40, Proposed Changes to the Code pertaining to “Institutional Credit” and “Transfer Credit”  (Subcommittee C with the addition of Lucy Rich and Alice Poehls)  The Chair asked that any further discussion on this proposal be tabled as this issue is up for discussion at the next meeting of the A Deans.

Marshall pointed out that at times the Provost's Office needs approval for administrative changes that may or may not appear to require EPC discussion and approval. He asked if the Provost's Office can work with the EPC Chair in resolving such issues. Aminmansour stated that he would feel comfortable to evaluate and respond to such inquiries on behalf of the Committee as long as the changes are considered minor. He further stated in particular that changes that would have an impact on student transcripts would not be considered minor and would require EPC approval. Williamson moved that the EPC Chair be empowered to make such decisions on behalf of the Committee and simply report back. If the Committee feels that further discussions and a vote are needed on the matter, then it will entertain the subject. Williamson further moved that the Chair's decision may be viewed as endorsed by the EPC if the Committee feels no discussion or vote is needed. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Adjournment

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