Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Monday, October 24, 2005

Minutes

Present:  Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Linda Beale, Thomas Berfield, Loren Bode, Stephen Boppart, Bo Fernhall (ex officio), Bettina M. Francis, Phillip Geil, Kristi Kuntz (ex officio designee), Amanda Palazzo, Lucy Rich, Leslie Struble, H. F. Williamson, Jason Webber

Absent:  Karen Carney (ex officio), Karen Chapman-Novakofski, Michele Crockett, Joe Danavi, Joseph Goldberg, Faye Lesht (ex officio), Carol Malmgren (observer), Keith Marshall (ex officio designee), Josh Rohrscheib, Kelly Tappenden, Chet Zych (ex officio)

Guest:  Jan Novakofski

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

The minutes of the meeting of October 10, 2005 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair

EP.06.12, Minor clarification of College of Communications’ Advanced-hours requirement, submitted to the Provost’s Office for administrative approval – Kristi Kuntz, Assistant Provost

Kuntz gave an overview of this proposal explaining that the College of Communications’ requirement that all undergraduates earn 20 advanced hours outside of College should be clarified to include 200-level courses as well as 300- and 400-level courses, with the proviso that 9 of the 20 hours must be at the 300-level or above. The Committee members agreed that the Provost’s Office should initiate this clarification.

The Chair announced that Professor Bob Rich has regretfully resigned from the Committee; Kelly Tappenden has agreed to replace him as chair of Subcommittee A.

III. New Business

Jan Novakofski, Professor, Nutritional Sciences, Department of Animal Sciences – CITES Review Committee

Novakofski is a member of a committee charged with the review of Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services or CITES. Its goal is to better understand how well the services CITES provide are meeting the needs of the Campus and to help offer advice on how these services to UIUC could be improved or made more cost effective. The review committee will make a public report, which may reflect ideas and concepts discussed in this meeting; however, the report will not contain any identifying information or specific facts not available from other sources. Prior to today’s meeting, the Committee had been forwarded the following questions.

- What areas of CITES do you most commonly interact with or what services do you most commonly make use of?
- In regard to information technology and communications, what service does CITES provide that works the best or makes your job easiest?
- In regard to information technology and communications, what service does CITES provide that should be improved the most?
- Are there services that CITES provides that you think another unit would better provide or that CITES should not?
- Are there services that another unit now provides which would be better provided by CITES?
- What should change about CITES to make your job easier or better?
- Is there anything else you would like to share about information technology and communications on campus or about CITES?

Novakofski reported that the CITES Review Committee consists of five faculty members and was initiated by the Provost’s Office. At the request of Professor Francis, he gave an overview of the duties of CITES saying...
its privy includes the telephone network and all security for research computing, but contrary to common belief it does not run Banner. The following suggestions were made:

- Wireless internet for the ACES Library
- Wireless coverage with faculty control
- General strategic plan for prevention of a Web crash, such as when COMPAS went down
- More ITS Classrooms
- Less monolithic services in an effort to prevent an overall collapse
- A centralized system for faculty to use in disbursing information to students
- Convenient locations for students to lock-up computers during the day while not in use
- More e-mail storage for students (Novakofski reported that there is a student Advisory Committee that recently voted against an upgrade for e-mail storage for students.)
- A CITES Web site to request comments and suggestions and publicize the services that already exist

In a response to an inquiry about malicious computer attacks, Novakofski reported that the numbers are staggering as the Campus receives approximately 100,000 attacks daily. Palazzo thought the CITES student representatives who provide “help” services in the dorms should be more well-versed. Berfield asked how the Review Committee is soliciting student input. Novakofski reported that although they have met with the Student Information Technical Advisory Board, they do not have a good tool for talking with students. He asked members to contact him via e-mail <jnova@express.cites.uiuc.edu> with any additional comments.

IV. Old Business

EP.05.29, Guidelines for the Academic Calendar – Implementation Date
As previously indicated in a recent e-mail message, Williamson suggested that the new calendar start in 2008-09 rather than 2007-08 since the academic calendar has already been approved by the Senate through 2007-08. After a short discussion, Williamson made a formal motion to change the recommended start date from 2007-08 to 2008-09. Francis seconded the motion. The recommendation was unanimously approved.

Subcommittees:

Subcommittee A

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
Due to the fact that the sponsors have withdrawn EP.05.03 with the intention of resubmitting in about eight weeks, this proposal will be considered a pending item.

EP.06.10, Proposal from the College of LAS to revise and offer as an option Biomolecular Engineering under the BS Degree in Chemical Engineering
Rich pointed out that this proposal is from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences rather than Engineering as indicated in the cover letter from the Provost’s Office. This proposal again raises the issue of option verses concentration, an issue presently being reviewed by our Task Group. Rich reported that the College of LAS does have many concentrations; these were previously approved by the EPC and also have the blessing of the IBHE. Palazzo thought this information should be made available for students on the Provost’s Web page in a structure commonly understood. The members held a short discussion of the proposal whereby several questions arose. A motion was made to approve the proposal with the intention of clarifying with the department as to the name of the degree. This motion was voted down.

Subcommittee B

EP.04.40, Proposed Changes to the Code pertaining to “Institutional Credit” and “Transfer Credit” (Subcommittee C with the addition of Lucy Rich)
Geil reported that he is still waiting for clarification on this proposal.

EP.05.31, Proposal from the College of Business for Revision of the Curriculum for the Department of Business Administration
Geil reported that he had not yet received a response from the department regarding suggested revisions.

EP.06.11, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for the addition of an Honors Option in the Integrative Biology Major
During discussion of this proposal, several minor questions; Geil will communicate these to the sponsor.
Subcommittee C

EP.06.05, Proposal from the College of Engineering to revise and increase the hours of the B.S. Degree in Materials Science and Engineering. Proposal was not discussed.

EP.06.06, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the Undergraduate Curriculum in Sculpture. The department has not yet responded to our request for revisions.

V. Other Items and Adjournment

Chair Aminmansour reported that he had recently heard an interesting presentation regarding President Joe White’s Strategic Plan: Urbana-Champaign Campus Strategic Planning Structure Five Year Framework. He asked the Committee members if they have any desire to contribute to this process. Struble shared her concern that because of the fast time-track, she questioned if it would be worthwhile. Kuntz pointed out that there is still time as the process is still at the administrative level. Beale said it behooves us to assert ourselves into the process, perhaps focusing on just one or two items. The members agreed to discuss this issue next Monday, October 31 from 1:10 to 2:40 p.m. in room 232 English Building; the Chair will forward the documents to the Committee via e-mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy

Approved as written