I. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of November 7, 2005 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair

The Chair mentioned that he had attended the November 7 meeting of the Senate Executive Committee whereby he had reported the EPC’s recent discussion of President White’s Strategic Plan and its approval of the suspension of the mid-semester grades for another year noting it would be the last year for the suspension.

III. New Business

EP.06.16, Proposal from the College of Engineering to merge the Departments of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and Renaming the Combined Department the Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering

Huseyin Sehitoglu gave a presentation on the history of TAM (Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics) reporting as follows:

- Knowledge of “Mechanics” is vital to a sound engineering education (dates back to Aristoteles 384-322)
- Illinois taught “mechanics” well, and it should continue to do so. The quality and the contributions of current and past TAM faculty and TAM Department are not in question.
- In the current environment, “Mechanics” degree programs can be better protected in a larger department.
- The top mechanical engineering departments have a good size “mechanics” group and Illinois is no exception.
- There are 39 faculty members in our ME compared to 28 at MIT; the peer institutions of MIT, Stanford, UCB, Michigan and Georgia Tech do not have separate “Mechanics” departments. In 1965, TAM had 35 faculty members, whereas there are currently 8. Other peer institutions with TAM departments are Virginia Tech, Penn State and Cornell University; apparently they are also facing similar pressures of enrollment and visibility.

Chair Aminmansour reminded committee members that the Public Hearing on this issue is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in room 190 Engineering Science Building and encouraged everyone to attend.

IV. Old Business

Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, Head, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health – Update on Kinesiology and Community Health since the recent merger (EP.04.38) Dr. Chodzko-Zajko presented an overview on why the merger of the departments of Kinesiology and Community Health had occurred stating that the tenure track faculty in Community Health had shrunk from ten to four where the ability to deliver the curriculum, especially at the graduate level, came into question. A recommendation for the merger came from this committee and was then approved by the Senate on November 1, 2004. He noted that the merged
departments have only been functioning as a single department this semester; there have been a series of
retreats, meetings, etc. to assist in the merge process. They maintain separate degree options and for the
meantime have separate budgets. Also, there are presently twenty faculty members in Kinesiology and six in
Community Health of which tenure track has gone from three to six and hoping for nine by the end of the
year. They have aspirations of becoming a research focus department and have identified a new research
initiative, specifically healthy communities; an NIH proposal will be executed in the spring. Chodzko-Zajko
reported that he meets with the Head of Community Health on a weekly basis; there are presently three out of
four searches in progress for community health and rehabilitation of which is processed through an advisory
committee. Chodzko-Zajko felt that for the most part this has been a positive and pleasant experience and
that there are many opportunities for collaboration within the two departments.

Subcommittees

Subcommittee A

EP.06.10, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise and offer as an option
Biomolecular Engineering under the BS Degree in Chemical Engineering Rich distributed copies of
“Urbana Current Program Codes with Concentrations.” Using this information as a reference guide, the
committee members were in agreement that the word “option” should be replaced by “concentration.”
Additional revisions included: changing the word “degree” on the last line of the first paragraph under
justification to “concentration” and changing the word “degree” on the last line of the second paragraph under
justification to “program.”

This proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.06.13, Proposal from the College of ACES for curricular revision to the Bachelor of Science Curriculum
with a major in Agricultural and Environmental Communications and Education The Committee thought
that the verbiage used in the proposal may need to be clarified in terms of concentration versus specialization.
Another concern was that some information might be missing from the proposal. After a short discussion, the
committee members moved to table this proposal.

Subcommittee B

EP.04.40, Proposed Changes to the Code pertaining to “Institutional Credit” and “Transfer Credit” The
proposal requires extensive discussion.

EP.05.31, Proposal from the College of Business for Revision of the Curriculum for the Department of
Business Administration The Subcommittee has not received the requested revisions from the department.

EP.06.11, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for the addition of an Honors Option in the
Integrative Biology Major Several changes were suggested to page 5 and also to page 7 of the proposal.
Geil moved approval with these corrections; Francis seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved with corrections to forward to the Senate.

EP.06.14, Proposal from the College of Engineering to revise the undergraduate curriculum in Computer
Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Geil reported that he had recently
received requested changes to page 5 of the proposal and moved approval.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

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 Previous discussion had brought up the issue of what constitutes a
concentration, whereby it was agreed that the word “concentration” should be replaced throughout the
proposal with the word “area.” Using the “Urbana Current Program Codes with Concentrations” as a
reference guide, the committee was in agreement that the previous decision should be null and void and that
this proposal could be approved to forward to the Senate as was originally written.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate as amended.

EP.06.06, Proposal from the College of Fine and Applied Arts to revise the Undergraduate Curriculum in
Sculpture The following changes were suggested: 1.) Foreign language should be listed as 0 hours with a
Note indicating a foreign language requirement may also need to be met. The aggregate hours should be 34
not 34-46. 2.) One of the ARTS 451 should be changed to ARTS 450.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.
EP.06.15, Proposal from the College of Engineering to revise the undergraduate curriculum in Electrical Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  Zych referred to the Statement for the Bulletin and suggested revisions: MATH 242 should be MATH 243; MATH 385 should be MATH 386; and total hours should be 32 not 30. Goldberg made a motion to approve this proposal as revised; Geil seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

V. Pending Items

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

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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