Approved as distributed.

Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, January 28, 2008

Minutes

Present: Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Loren Bode, Phillip Geil, Natasha Jankowski, Kristi Kuntz (ex officio designee), John Marden, Sarah Projansky, Mary Ramsbottom (ex officio), Chris Roegge (ex officio), Kelly Tappenden, Laird Thompson, Peg Wherry (ex officio), Kenneth Watkin

Absent: Jeffrey Brawn, Ted Dimiropoulos, Gregory Hart, David Kovacic, Susan Lamb, Carol Malmgren (observer), Keith Marshall (ex officio), Michael Perkins, Mark Rood, Kevin Waspi

Guests: Ann Mester, Associate Dean, LAS Administration; Lucy Rich, Assistant Dean, 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 November 26, 2007 were approved as distributed.

II. Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements

The Chair reported that he, Kristi Kuntz and Carol Livingstone had recent discussions regarding inaccurate advertising of degrees, curricula or Programs of Study (POS) statements, etc. appearing on various department publications and web sites. Kuntz explained that colleges will be asked to check contents of POS of undergraduate programs for accuracy in the future. She added that Mary Lowry of the Graduate College has done some amazing work in correcting the many inconsistencies of graduate POS. Kuntz pointed out that the Provost’s office will be looking at other ways to make POS a more robust tool; thus, more viable for departmental use. Kuntz also stated that in their discussions, Aminmansour, Livingstone and Kuntz agreed that the Provost’s office will recommend a cover form sheet for EPC proposals which will specifically identify certain information such as the purpose of the proposal (e.g. establishing new degree, major or concentration, etc.).

Bode questioned the use of acronyms such as SH for semester hours, GH for Graduate Hours, etc. on in EPC proposals vs. university documents and stressed the importance that their use be consistent. Kuntz thought this could be done if everyone used “Banner Speak.”

Aminmansour asked Ramsbottom to share with the Committee their recent email exchanges on academic integrity issues. Ramsbottom reported that the A Deans had discussed a number of concerns they had relative to academic integrity policies last Spring semester and their implications on policies and Student Code. She added that she had been discussing a number of such cases with the University Counsel recently. The A Deans will bring forward a proposal for new policies to EPC later this semester.

Tappenden announced that there would be several guests at the next meeting to discuss the forthcoming professional science masters proposals which will train individuals to move into industry.

Kuntz asked if the process of forwarding proposals from the Provost’s office to committee members by Adobe PDF was acceptable. The Secretary reported that she had had received only one request for hard copies. Bode noted that he had found it necessary to install Adobe Reader on his computer.

The Chair injected his thanks to graduate student member Natasha Jankowski for her attendance today and said student participation on the Committee is so very important.

III. Reports from the Provost’s Office and Graduate College

There were no additional reports given.

IV. Old Business

UPDATE/The following proposals were approved on November 26, 2007 to forward to the Senate on February 25:
EP.08.23, Proposal from the Graduate College and Veterinary Clinical Medicine to establish a non-thesis option for Master of Science students in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine

EP.08.22, Revision to the B.S. in Elementary Education, College of Education

EP.08.27, Revision of the Undergraduate Major in the Sciences and Letters Curriculum in Speech Communication, College of LAS

V. New Business

Subcommittees

Subcommittee A

EP.08.26, Proposal from the College of Business’ Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship Although Bode found this proposal to be well-written, he did not think it was ready as far as its implementation; consequently, he contacted the Sponsor who has agreed to forward revisions in February.

EP.08.32, Revise the Joint Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and Masters of Public Health (MPH) Program, College of VMED and UIC School of Public Health Bode reported that as he did not have a clear understanding of the process involved in devising a joint degree with the Chicago campus; therefore, he had searched online for more information. Kuntz explained that the this proposal has gone through the full Senate process at UIC whereby substantive comments had arisen; Graduate College review is not required since this is a professional joint degree. Bode questioned the hours requirement and the proposal’s format; Kuntz noted that it is in the format required by the UIC process. Bode recommended approval as revised per clarification of the range of credit hours.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.08.34, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish a graduate minor in Information Technology and Control Bode referred to page one whereby the description of the program of study does not include the concentration; he also thought it would be more straightforward if it contained clarification as to the coursework.

EP.08.35, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish a concentration in Analytics in the Master’s Degree in Statistics Bode thought this proposal to be reasonably straightforward; however, he found the reference to expected enrollment on page 3 to be confusing. He also questioned the budget implications. Dean Mester noted that State Farm Insurance Company has provided funds for this program for many years; she will obtain a copy of the letter from State Farm confirming its support.

Subcommittee B

EP.08.24, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish a Graduate Minor in Latina/Latino Studies Geil recommended approval as revised.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.08.29, Reorganize the African American Studies and Research Program to the Department of African American Studies, College of LAS and EP.08.30, Reorganize the Program for the Study of Religion to the Department of Religion, College of LAS Chair Aminmansour announced that a joint Public Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 26 at 11:00 a.m.; location to be announced. Geil found EP.08.30 to lack substance as to why they are requesting a department other than the fact they have been on Campus for 30 years. The Chair pointed out that any proposal suggesting a tenure home for faculty must go through the Senate for approval.

EP.08.31, Establish the Center for Human Resource Management (CHRM), Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations (ILIR) and the College of Business UIUC and the College of Business Administration UIC Geil questioned the footnote on page one of the proposal regarding temporary approval and suggested that the wording be changed to permanent approval. After a short discussion, it was noted that Geil should contact the department regarding this discrepancy.
Subcommittee C

EP.08.21, Revised Proposal from the College of Communications to rename the College  Projansky noted receipt of a revised proposal to rename the College of Communication to the College of Media; letters of support from the College Deans of LAS and FAA, who had objected to the original proposal, are included.

The proposal was approved to forward to the Senate (Yes: 7; Abstention: 1).

EP.08.25, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of LAW to establish a joint degree program in Law and Philosophy (J.D. /Ph.D.) Projansky thought this proposal to be fairly straightforward except for some typos; however, she did question the Attachment for College of Law specifications pertaining to all of its joint degree programs. After some discussion, she moved for approval pending clarification of concerns. She will follow up with the sponsor to obtain clarifications on the attachment from LAW.

The proposal was unanimously approved conditionally.

EP.08.28, Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Communication, College of LAS Projansky reported that the subcommittee has suggested that a more detailed discussion about budget implications be provided, and that clarification needs to be provided about “Prerequisites for the minor,” and clarification of total hours. Projansky made a motion to approve pending receipt of revisions from the department.

The proposal was unanimously approved pending receipt of the clarification noted above.

EP.08.33, Discontinue the BSLAS in Bioengineering, College of LAS Projansky was unclear as to whether this proposal was to discontinue a degree or concentration; therefore, she suggested that the department be asked to provide editorial changes.

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

EP.08.36, Discontinue the Concentration in Park and Natural Resource Management in the B.S. in Recreation, Sport and Tourism, College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS) The Subcommittee has suggested some editorial changes; a motion was made to approve pending receipt of such changes.

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

EP.08.37, Establish a minor in Agricultural Safety and Health, College of ACES Projansky referred to page one whereby the description of the program of study indicates that this is a college-wide minor. This should be changed to cross-campus minor requiring letters of support from all departments with courses outside of the College of ACES.

Chair Aminmansour thanked Professor Projansky for agreeing to take over as Chair of Subcommittee C as Professor Lamb had only agreed to serve as subcommittee Chair for fall semester due to a teaching conflict this spring. The Chair remarked that he appreciates everyone’s time and efforts in the review of proposals as it is important that members read them and provide input.

VI. Pending Items

No items are pending at this time.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy