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 August 27, 2007 were approved as written.

II. Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements
Aminmansour reported that he had sent an e-mail message to committee members on September 7 noting that a Public Hearing has been scheduled to merge the Department of Linguistics and the Division of English as an International Language (EP.08.05).

The Chair announced that Charles Evans, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, Director of University Outreach and soon to be named Dean of Academic Affairs of the Global Campus was here today to speak to the Committee about the Global Campus. Chair Aminmansour said he had met recently with Evans and Chet Gardner to discuss the process for which Global Campus academic programs might be approved by the Senate in a timely manner.

III. Main Business: Global Campus Online Education Program — Charles Evans, Director of University Outreach, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs
Charles Evans distributed information packets related to the Global Campus and walked the members through the information. Creation of the Global Campus is a logical next chapter in the 140-year University of Illinois story that began on July 2, 1862 when President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the Morrill Land-Grant Act and changed the face of education. With this came the building of the Urbana campus, the development of the University’s presence in Chicago through the medical campus, Navy Pier, the Circle Campus, and ultimately the establishment of UIC, and most recently the addition of the Springfield campus. The Global Campus is completely consistent with the University of Illinois’ mission as a land-grant university – since part of that mission is to provide affordable access to a quality education.

Evans said that it is important to promote change and be innovative; everyone here is in pursuit of knowledge, all of us in different disciplines, responding to student needs. A quality online education starts with University faculty, strong instruction and strong student support. Instruction will be set for 8-week terms on a Master Teaching Model; hiring of teaching assignments and adjuncts to teach Global Campus courses will be left up to the department offering the courses or program. Aminmansour noted that faculty may take the initiative to participate in the Global Campus; the Academic Unit would be held responsible for maintaining quality. It was noted that the University would own material developed as work for hire through the Global Campus for each course.

Global Campus instruction will be provided by the learning management system “Desire2Learn.” A student and faculty friendly web-based platform for the delivery of online teaching and learning, this system assists in the delivery of online learning for Schools, Colleges, Universities, and Corporations. Evans noted that while the Global Campus is working on a limited time-frame, the University does not want to cut corners; however, does want to move things along as expeditiously as possible. Aminmansour echoed Mary Ramsbottom’s earlier comment that quality control includes not only rigorous review of courses and programs proposals, but
monitoring students’ progress as well making sure that we uphold our standards. Malmgren requested future consideration (as the program grows) to include implementation of auditable checks-and-balances and separation of staff duties. This would ensure operational quality controls. Evans asked that the EPC advise him as to how this effort may move forward in a timely manner. Chair Aminmansour noted that the EPC consists of not only an insightful committee membership, but also many ex officios and guests who contribute different perspectives and unique insights. He expressed hope that the Global Campus would tap on such knowledgeable colleagues to address the many issues that are bound to come up as the Global Campus moves forward.

IV. Old Business

Subcommittees

Subcommittee A

EP.08.01, Proposal from the Graduate College to revise the Master of Education (Ed.M.) and Master of Science (M.S.) Degree Programs in Human Resource Education, Department of Human Resource Education, College of EDUC Bode noted receipt of revisions to page 3, Appendix A (handout) and made a motion for approval; Projansky seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee C

EP.08.06, Proposal to establish a Financial Planning Concentration within the B.S. Degree Program in the Department of Agricultural & Consumer Economics, College of ACES Lamb shared concerns that this program is already listed as an offering on the Global Campus and questioned certification of the concentration. Malmgren noted that this proposal relates to the “big C little c” controversy that often arises in committee discussion. Mester referred to the footnote on page 1: “The proposed concentration neither aims for certification by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards nor purports to serve as a self-contained preparatory curriculum for the CFP examinations.” Lamb made a motion for approval; Geil seconded the motion.

The proposal was approved to forward to the Senate (Yes 9; Abstention 1).

EP.08.07, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish a Master of Science in Technology Management, College of BUS Kuntz explained that this program had been showing up as a Master of Science in Business, instead of Technology Management as originally intended. Lamb made a motion for approval, Thompson seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

V. New Business

No new business was reported.

VI. 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 The Chair reported that the Subcommittee has asked for more time and will present its Report to the EPC on October 1.

EP.08.05, Proposal to request the merger of the Division of English as an International Language and the Department of Linguistics into a newly configured Department of Linguistics, College of LAS A Public Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 23, 2007 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., location to be announced.

VII. Adjournment

Kuntz distributed copies of an informational document: IPEDS Degree and Certificate Definitions.

The EPC is scheduled to hold its next meeting on September 17; however, as the Committee has cleared its agenda, the Chair may choose to cancel the meeting if no new business is received.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.