Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, October 22, 2007

Minutes

Present: Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Loren Bode, Jeffrey Brawn, Phillip Geil, Kristi Kuntz (ex officio designee), Susan Lamb, Mary Lowry (ex officio designee), John Marden, Carol Malmgren (observer), Keith Marshall (ex officio), Mary Ramsbottom (ex officio), Chris Roegge (ex officio), Mark Rood, Kelly Tappenden, Kevin Waspi, Peg Wherry (ex officio)

Absent: Ted Dimiropoulos, Andrew Hamilton, Gregory Hart, David Kovacic, Michael Perkins, Sarah Projansky, Ryan Robinson, Laird Thompson, Kenneth Watkin

Guests: Jesse Delia, Vice Chancellor for Research; Charles Evans, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, Global Campus; John Fyfe, Director of Project and Program Management, Global Campus; Carol Livingstone, Associate Provost for Management Information; Ann Mester, Associate Dean, LAS Administration; Michael Miller, Associate Registrar for Student Systems, Admissions and Records; Asghar Mirarefi, Director of International Research Partnerships, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research; Lucy Rich, Assistant Dean, LAS Administration; Becky Vinzant, Director of Student Services, Global Campus

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 October 1, 2007 were approved as distributed.

II. Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements

The Chair reminded members of the Public Hearing scheduled for tomorrow, October 23, 2007 in room 217 Noyes Lab to foster discussion of the merging of the Division of English as an International Language and the Department of Linguistics into a newly configured Department of Linguistics, College of LAS (EP.08.05).

Aminmansour reported that EP.08.20, Proposal from the University of Illinois Global Campus to approve the GC Academic calendar for Spring 2008 to Fall 2009 terms, has been withdrawn from our agenda by the Global Campus as Chet Gardner thinks that the EPC does not necessarily have jurisdiction. The immediate response from members was that since the EPC is responsible for approving the campus academic calendar, it does indeed have jurisdiction over the Global Campus calendar. Lamb made a motion that “the EPC maintains that the Senate does have jurisdiction over the Global Campus academic calendar.” Geil seconded the motion.

This motion was unanimously approved.

III. Old Business

EP.06.32, Proposed Guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees (USC OT-218), letter from Elliot R. Kaufman, Chair of University Senates Conference

Chair Aminmansour said he wanted to go on record as to thanking everyone particularly Dean Tappenden and her Sub-Committee for their hard work in finalizing this document. Dean Tappenden also thanked her Sub-Committee and EPC members for their input. Tappenden distributed copies of the latest revisions to the proposed guidelines and walked members through the changes. The Chair noted that the Guidelines have resulted from a letter dated November 10, 2005 from Elliot R. Kaufman, Chair of the University Senates Conference. In addition to the Task Group for Study of Multi-Institutional Degrees, Dean Tappenden and an EPC Sub-Committee of several volunteers worked over the summer compiling a draft. Geil noted that the program only accepts students to our campus from foreign institutions; he thought the arrangement should be reciprocal.

The proposal was approved to forward to the Senate; Yes – seven, one abstention.

Subcommittees

Subcommittee B

EP.08.12, Proposal from the Graduate College to establish three concentrations (Human Resource Development; Community Teaching and Learning; and eLearning) in the Ed.M. in Human Resource Education

The Chair reported that there had been several e-mail exchanges since our last meeting; also, he has since met with Phil Geil, Scott Johnson and Chet Gardner. Aminmansour read a letter he had written on behalf of the EPC which recommends approval of EP.08.12 with the additional requirement that Global Campus courses and degrees be annotated on students’ academic transcript as described in EP.08.19, Proposal from the Graduate College and Academic Associate Deans to annotate Urbana degree programs earned via the Global Campus on Academic Transcripts. Geil recommended approval of this proposal; Bode seconded the motion.
The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.08.13, Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Biomolecular Engineering, College of LAS  
Geil suggested a revision and made a motion for approval; Brawn seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.

Subcommittee C

EP.08.16, Revision of the Integrative Biology Concentration of the Major in Sciences & Letters Curriculum in Integrative Biology, College of LAS  
Lamb questioned the time of the start of courses; Mester provided a list of new courses for clarification. Lamb recommended approval.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

IV. New Business

EP.08.21, Proposal from the College of Communications to rename the College of Communications as the College of Media Arts and Sciences  
Kuntz distributed copies of this new proposal; it has since been assigned to Subcommittee C for review.

Subcommittees

Subcommittee A

EP.08.17, Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Sub Saharan African Languages (SSAL), College of LAS  
and  
EP.08.18, Establish an Undergraduate Major in the Sciences and Letters Curriculum in African American Studies, College of LAS  
Both of these proposals will be discussed at the next meeting.

Subcommittee B

EP.08.19, Proposal from the Graduate College and Academic Associate Deans to annotate Urbana degree programs earned via the Global Campus on Academic Transcripts  
Chair Aminmansour reported that this issue was discussed at the last meeting when we viewed copies of sample transcripts, but were waiting for the formal proposal. Geil made a motion for approval; Waspi seconded the motion.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.08.20, Proposal from the University of Illinois Global Campus to approve the GC Academic Calendar for Spring 2008 to Fall 2009 Terms  
Evans said there is always tension when something new is proposed across campuses; however, there was never a goal to force a crisis. It was noted that Chet Gardner is presently attending a conference but that he had contacted Evans stating that if the EPC thought it had jurisdiction over the GC Academic Calendar, he would ask the Committee to proceed with review of this proposal. Aminmansour said it is not the Committee’s goal to cause difficulties or delay approval; however, it is the goal of the EPC to follow the rules and do everything by the book to protect everyone in the spirit of making the best possible document. Geil noted that the latest revisions include changing term to session, 4 days to drop a course for tuition refund and 2 weeks to drop without receiving a W. Ramsbottom raised questions regarding the cancellation date. Malmgren pointed out that it was based on the Student Code, using the 8-week summer session. Evans said it was their goal to mimic what has already been done. Ramsbottom thought precision in language to be very important as there could be implications to drop versus withdrawal.

The Proposed GC Academic Calendar was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

V. Pending Items (Waiting to hear from sponsors.)

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., in 217 Noyes Lab.

VI. Adjournment

It was noted that it may be necessary to obtain an abbreviated version of the Global Campus Calendar (EP.08.20) as the current version may be misleading to some readers. Also, the Graduate College Executive Committee will be reviewing the Proposed Guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees (EP.06.32) at its meeting tomorrow.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy