Minutes

Present:  Abbas Aminmansour (Chair), Jeffrey Brawn, Phillip Geil, Natasha Jankowski, Jason Kosovski (ex officio designee), Michael A. Krassa, Faye Lesht (ex officio), Carol Malmgren (observer), Gay Y. Miller, Lucy Rich (ex officio), Chet Zych (ex officio designee), Kelly Tappenden, Kevin Waspi

Absent:  Loren Bode, Emily Ganschinietz, Gary McPherson, Steve Michael, Keith Marshall (ex officio), Mark Rood, David Strauser, Amelia Wallrich, Nicholas Yannelis

Guests:  Jonathan Foreman, Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, VMED Administration; Susan Frankenberg, Museum Studies Program Coordinator, Anthropology; Carol Livingstone, Associate Provost for Management Information; Ann Mester, Associate 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 the meeting of January 26, 2009 were approved as distributed.

II.  Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements

Chair Aminmansour announced that if the Committee were to approve the majority of the agenda items during today’s meeting, we can cancel our meeting scheduled for February 16.

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

On behalf of the Provost’s Office, Kosovski reported on the following administrative change:

Revisions to the BALAS in Philosophy – Request is to change the requirements for the BALAS in Philosophy replacing one required 400-level course with two required 400-level courses selected from a list of courses. Consequently, the number of additional required Philosophy credit hours will be reduced from 18 to 15. No changes in total credits in Philosophy are proposed.

Dean Tappenden reported that the NRC (National Research Council) expects to release the results of its most recent assessment of doctoral programs in March. Tappenden and Vice Provost Richard Wheeler coordinated the UI’s response to the assessment (article in 2/5/2009 Inside Illinois).

IV.  Old Business

Subcommittee A

EP.09.39, Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of ACES to establish a Food Science graduate concentration and a Human Nutrition graduate concentration in the MS and PhD in Food Science and Human Nutrition  Miller questioned whether or not this proposal should be two degree programs as she did not see an overlap. Tappenden felt that the two proposed concentrations make sense as submitted. She added that there are no course requirements for a Ph.D. degree and therefore the Committee should not hold the proposal because of the proposed course plans. Geil thought the justification was to provide students with a choice of either nutrition or food science. The Chair agreed that the Committee should not hold the proposal for course plans that are not a requirement to begin with. In response to the discussion, Miller moved for approval as submitted.

The proposal was approved to forward to the Senate (Yes: 6; No: 1).

Subcommittee B

EP.09.46, Revise the BFA in Industrial Design, College of FAA  Geil reported that he had not heard from the college contact in regard to a request for revisions; however, he will contact her again before the next meeting.

Subcommittee C
EP.09.50, Revise the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine curriculum, College of VMED  Jankowski reported that she had received the requested revisions. Foreman distributed copies of handouts in response to inquiries and walked members through them. He pointed out that credit hours and dollars are involved here as VMED students pay higher tuition than students in other colleges. When asked how this program would deal with disasters, Foreman replied that there would be an Emergency Response team. The Chair pointed out that resource issues have been addressed and pointed out that the Provost has not made any commitment for new faculty positions to the college and that any searches to fill vacant positions are subject to approval as any other search. Miller inquired as to the pedagogical reason for creating the super courses. Foreman said that the proposal is to give the college more flexibility in shaping the curriculum in the future. Geil questioned if the super courses were educationally appropriate. Foreman said that if the Committee had concerns about the proposal, he could take the proposal back to the college for revisions. The proposal was approved to forward to the Senate (Yes: 5; No: 1; Abstention: 2). Aminmansour noted that he voted against the proposal because he felt that creation of the super courses is a bad precedent to set. 

Jankowski thought all questions had been answered; she suggested adding a paragraph on the budget issues and moved approval pending receipt of revisions. Tappenden seconded the motion.

V. New Business

Subcommittee A

EP.09.55, Eliminate the BFA in Crafts with a concentration in Glass, College of FAA  Miller reported that basically there are neither faculty nor students in the program; therefore, she moved approval. Zych pointed out that the proposal is for the elimination of the concentration in glass, not the BFA in Crafts. Therefore, he suggested a revision to the title: “Eliminate the concentration in Glass in the BFA in Crafts, School of Art and Design.” The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.

EP.09.56, Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Hindi Studies, College of LAS  Miller reported that this program has new faculty and a student enrollment of 20; however, she referred to page 4, Statement for Programs of Study, and questioned the requirement of 19 hours. Mester pointed out that the minimum requirement is 19 hours and that students may take 19-21 hours. Miller moved for approval with this revision. The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee B

EP.09.57, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of LAS to establish a BALAS-MA degree program in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures  Geil questioned whether or not the proposal name is correct and thought the language was confusing. In response to these questions, the Chair recommended that further discussions be held until the next meeting.

EP.09.58, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of LAS to establish an Interdisciplinary Graduate Minor in Museum Studies  Geil reported that revisions have been made to EP.09.58; he recommended approval. The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

Subcommittee C

EP.09.59, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of Education to redesignate the Concentrations in EdM in Secondary Education and EP.09.60, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of Education to eliminate the EdM in Elementary Education—Certification Concentration  Jankowski moved approval on both proposals; Tappenden seconded the motion.

Proposals EP.09.59 and EP.09.60 were unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

VI. Pending Items

Subcommittee A
EP.08.26, Proposal from the College of Business for Entrepreneurial Leadership to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship  Chair Aminmansour reported that there is a long history behind this proposal and that Professor Bode as the Chair of the subcommittee reviewing the proposal had sent the sponsor a list of required changes but had not received any reply. Aminmansour added that since he had been involved in the previous discussions on the proposal, in the absence of Professor Bode, he will work with the sponsors to facilitate the review of the proposal.

VII. Adjournment

Since the majority of the Committee’s business has been cleared, Chair Aminmansour suggested canceling next week’s meeting; the members voted approval unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy