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 the meeting of April 6, 2009 were approved as distributed.

II. Remarks of the Chair, Reports and Announcements

Chair Aminmansour noted this to be the last meeting of the academic year; as there were several items to discuss before the Senate meeting on April 27 he thanked everyone for their attendance. Aminmansour introduced Rebecca Bryant, Assistant Dean in the Graduate College to speak on behalf of a proposal from the Graduate College to enable doctoral student graduation in August and to eliminate the October graduation period altogether. Dean Bryant reported that it is felt that this change will improve service to doctoral students (who will then have a “degree in hand” at the time they start a faculty position in August), but also because it will eliminate the confusion and manual work required for a graduate period that does not align with a term, and because it will bring our practices in closer alignment with those of our peers.

The EPC voted unanimously to approve this change. The Chair was not clear if such a change would need Senate approval or not; however, at least one Senate committee has gone on record in agreeing with the proposed change. (After the meeting, Chair Aminmansour spoke with Robert Damrau, Clerk of the Senate who said that no further Senate approvals are needed for this change.)

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

On behalf of the Provost’s Office, Kosovski reported that he had no administrative changes to report at this time. He announced that Kristi Kuntz will be returning to her position in the Provost’s office soon. The Chair thanked Kosovski for his invaluable help with the committee the past several months.

On behalf of the Graduate College, Mary Lowry indicated that she had nothing new to report; however, one new proposal is pending and will come to this committee in the fall.

IV. Old Business

Subcommittee A

EP 09.67, Revise the Major in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, College of ACES  Bode reported that he had spent some time with the sponsors of this proposal; they in turn have revised the page that indicates a justification for the program. Revisions to the Program of Study statement are forthcoming. Also, Kosovski has forwarded a new cover letter to replace the one originally sent; this lists the correct name of each concentration. Bode made a motion to approve as amended.
The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.09.68, Revise the BSLAS in Russian Language and Literature, College of LAS  Bode reported that
the department has sent revisions to the justification section of the proposal, and we now have a new
cover letter from the Provost’s office. He moved approval as revised.

The proposal was unanimously approved as revised.

Subcommittee B

EP.09.65, Rename the Teaching of Social Studies Concentration in the BALAS in History as the Social
Science: History Teaching Concentration in the BALAS in History, College of LAS  Geil reported that
he had received the majority of the requested changes. However, there is still a problem with the
Advanced Composition course requirement course hours. Geil moved approval pending receipt of
changes; it was noted that this proposal would not go to the Senate until September.

The proposal was unanimously approved as revised.

V. New Business

Subcommittee B

EP.09.74, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of Engineering to Redesignate the Joint master
of Science in Electrical Engineering and Master of business Administration Degree as the Joint Master of
Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering and Master of Business Administration  Geil moved
approved as submitted.

The proposal was unanimously approved to forward to the Senate.

EP.09.76, Proposal from the Graduate College, College of Engineering and College of Business to
establish the jointly offered Master of Science in Financial Engineering  Geil reported that all questions
regarding this proposal have been answered; however, appendices are missing, some editorial changes are
needed. He noted that revisions have been circulated via e-mail; therefore, he recommended approval as
revised. Livingstone mentioned that there are some constraints with this proposal as there must be a
single department responsible for each program, therefore, it will be housed in the Graduate College. Geil
moved approval as revised.

The proposal was unanimously approved as revised.

Subcommittee C

EP.09.75, Proposal from the Graduate College and the Illinois Informatics Institute to Establish an
Informatics Ph.D. Program  Jankowski reported that there is still some question as to how interest in the
program is measured and how the program is to be funded. Professor Bruce Schatz reported that the
Institute has been mandated to provide a Ph.D. program; a similar program at Indiana University has
drawn much interest and the program at Arizona State University is greatly oversubscribed. They have
circulated some publicity around campus and have received 550 inquiries. The original plan had been
promised both sizeable funding and nine new faculty members; however, funding has since dissipated. At
present there are three full-time staff members occupying permanent space in the University Library;
consequently, the proposal fits the budget constraints.

Geil thought the Statement was definitely not strong enough and that the curriculum as it stands is not
logical. Schatz agreed that it should be reworded. Bode noted that the program is not clearly defined,
plus funding is in question. The Chair pointed out that the EPC has no jurisdiction in regard to funding;
however, we do request confirmation from the Provost’s office that funding will be covered. As this
program would not be implemented until 2010, Aminmansour asked Professor Schatz to continue to
collaborate with Jankowski.

VI. Other Business

The Chair interrupted the discussion for a few minutes and thanked everyone for their participation this
past academic year. He said that he found this to be a wonderful group. To those members who are
continuing, he looks forward to seeing them again; to those whose terms expire, he expressed thanks and
hopes that they will see fit to return some day.
Aminmansour thanked the secretary, Diana Morris, for her work with the committee the past several years and acknowledged that she would be retiring as of May 15, 2009. He noted that Ms. Morris has served the Committee admirably and added that her knowledge, experience and wonderful personality will be missed. On behalf of the Committee, he presented her with a bouquet of flowers. In celebration, a sheet cake was served.

**Pending Items**

**Subcommittee A**

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<tr>
<th>EP.08.26, Proposal from the College of Business for Entrepreneurial Leadership to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship</th>
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<td>There were no updates on this proposal.</td>
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**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Diana Morris, Secretary
Senate Committee on Educational Policy