A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 12:35 pm on Monday, March 12, 2018, in room 232 of the English Building with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

1. **Introductions**
   Guest introductions were made.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   The approval of the February 12 and February 26, 2018, meeting minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

3. **Chair’s Remarks** (G. Miller)
   No remarks were given.

4. **Office of the Provost Updates and Administrative Approvals EP.18.55 (K. Martensen)**
   There were no updates from the Provost’s Office, and Martensen gave a brief overview of EP.18.55, the administrative approvals through March 12, 2018. No further discussion was held, and EP.18.55 was approved by unanimous consent and will appear on the April 2, 2018, Senate agenda as a Report.

5. **Graduate College Updates** (J. Hart)
   No updates were given.

6. **Old Business**
   A. **Subcommittee B:** Eric Meyer, Chair; Theo Moton, Ray Benekohal, Linda Moorhouse, Phoebe Handler
      1. EP.18.31 Proposal to Establish the Bachelor of Science in Information Sciences from the School of Information Sciences
         No discussion was held.

   B. **Subcommittee C:** Steve Michael, Chair; Rahul Raju, Ann Reisner, David Huang, Kathryn LaBarre, Linda Robbennolt, ex-officio
      1. EP.18.28 Proposal to Establish the Master of Sustainable Urban Design as a Self-Supporting Program from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
         A brief overview of EP.18.28 advising that a second revision was posted for the committee’s review that answers questions raised by the committee. L. Robbennolt introduced the proposal sponsor, William Sullivan who was in attendance to offer further clarification if needed...
advised that four additional letters of support, along with language clarifying accreditation has been added to the revised proposal.

A motion to approve EP.18.28 Revision 2 was made. The motion was seconded, and no further discussion was held. The motion to approve EP.18.28 Revision 2 passed by voice and will appear on the April 2, 2018, Senate agenda.

2. **EP.18.38 Proposal to Establish the LAS International Partner High School Program from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Michael gave a brief overview of EP.18.38 and opened up discussion with the committee inquiring what EPC’s jurisdiction is over this proposal. McCarthy reported that he brought the proposal for support but stated that it is that this program does not require EPC or the Senate’s support. He advised that EPC Chair and other units supported bringing a proposal for this program to EPC as it does hit the spirit of Standing Rule 13 in regards to increasing enrollment although this is courses and not programs as it states in Standing Rule 13. Chair Miller added that bringing proposals like this helps EPC to be aware when programs are growing so that the Senate has information on what is going on around campus.

McCarthy advised that different initiatives are being done by LAS and it is desired to have the faculty’s support for this experiment. He reported that the University would hire the faculty to do the online teaching here, but the University will not pay the mentors in China.

A discussion was held regarding some members showing concern for quality control for online and offsite courses and if there is a mechanism in place indicating that they are as effective as classes taught on campus. Bellini, Director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (CITL), responded by stating that there is a process and mechanism for all courses whether on campus or online in place already. He added that the online learning outcome assessments is the same as what is done for the on-campus courses. McCarthy advised that after doing an extensive analysis of NetMath online courses, it was concluded that students who pass technical online courses successfully were more likely to succeed in further advanced courses.

McCarthy commented that part of the reason that Math is going to an online world is that LAS has one of the top research programs in the world. Students are seeking online for this kind of material, and we as a University have the obligation as a distance learning institution to offer this not to just our students here, but we have an obligation to provide this learning to everyone.

Further discussion was held concerning if a teacher in the United States would be able to be an online mentor and McCarthy responded by advising that it would require a separate contract to do that and could not be a dual credit but there is nothing in this proposal that states that they cannot be an online mentor. A question was raised if mentors would be chosen in ways that provide diversity among mentors, in the same way, that UI works to enhance diversity among instructors. McCarthy clarified that the mentors in China would not be chosen by us, that the mentors are selected by the school there and are required to be certified.

The suggestion was made to add the clarifying language to the proposal that the course is not being taught in another language, that a student’s native language will only be used to explain something further to a student.

The motion was made to approve EP.18.38. The motion was seconded. Some further clarifying discussion was held. The motion to approve EP.18.38 failed by a vote of 5 no votes, 2 yes votes, and 2 abstentions. It was stated that the denial was that EPC did not support certain items. The negative vote means the proposal would not go forward from the committee to the Senate.

A discussion was held concerning creating a document that can be put in front of the EPC of points that relate to issues that were raised associated with this discussion. Steve Michael will work to create a summary document with such points for consideration by EPC at an April meeting.
3. **EP.18.40 Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Geography and Geographic Information Science (GIS) and Establish the BSLAS in GIS from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

A brief overview was given on EP.18.40, adding that a revision was posted for the committee’s review. It was stated that there had been no concerns or questions expressed regarding the proposal. Meyer moved for approval of EP.18.40 Revision 1. The motion was seconded, and no further discussion was held. The motion to approve EP.18.40 Revision 1 passed by voice and will appear on the April 2, 2018, Senate agenda.

C. **Subcommittee A:** Randy McCarthy, Chair; Cynthia Buckley, Nolan Miller, Samantha Frost, Andrianna Kurzenberger, Amanda Yuile

1. **EP.18.42 Proposal to Revise the MA in Portuguese and Establish the concentration in Brazilian Studies within the MA in Portuguese from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

A brief overview of EP.18.42 was given, adding that a minor revision has been posted for the committee’s review. He advised that he has received no questions or comments in regards to the proposal and made the motion to approve EP.18.42 Revision 2. The motion was seconded, and no further discussion was held. The motion to approve EP.18.42 Revision 2 passed by voice and will appear on the April 2, 2018, Senate agenda.

D. **EP.18.47 2028-2029 Academic Calendar**

E. **EP.18.48 2029-2030 Academic Calendar**

Chair Miller introduced proposals EP.18.47 and EP.18.48 and made note that these both have a shortened winter session. Adam Fein, Assistant Provost for Educational Innovation, advised that the Winter Session Evaluation 2017-2018 was posted for the committee’s review to clarify questions and concerns regarding the shortened winter session. He reported that there is only one course over the 300 level offered during the Winter Session. A discussion was held concerning that the approval is not needed this year and that the Registrar’s office plans to work on aspects pertaining to the Winter session and investigate other solutions which might create a 4 week winter session as standard length.

It was the consensus of the committee to withdraw Academic Calendars, EP.18.47 and EP.18.48 to allow for more work to be done.

7. **New Business**

A. **Feedback Request on the New Budget Model**

No discussion was held.

B. **Subcommittee A:** Randy McCarthy, Chair; Cynthia Buckley, Nolan Miller, Samantha Frost, Andrianna Kurzenberger, Amanda Yuile

1. **EP.18.51 Proposal to Transfer and Revise the existing graduate degree program leading to an M.S. with a major in Plant Biotechnology with a Professional Sciences Master's concentration, from the Department of Plant Biology, College of LAS into the Department of Crop Sciences, College of ACES.**

A brief overview of EP.18.51, advising that the proposal is moving the program from Biology to Crop Sciences in ACES and making it a PSM. Lowry was in attendance and offered clarification to members’ questions concerning the PSM program. The motion as made to approve EP.18.51 Revision 1. The motion was seconded, and no further discussion was held. The motion to approve EP.18.51 Revision 1 passed by voice and will appear on the April 2, 2018, Senate agenda.

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm

Rachel Park
Senate Office