UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Monday, April 9, 2018
MINUTES

Present: Gay Miller, Chair; Ray Benekohal, Samantha Frost, Phoebe Handler, David Huang, Andrianna Kurzenberger, Randy McCarthy, Eric Meyer, Steve Michael, Nolan Miller, Linda Moorhouse, Theo Moton, and Amanda Yuile

Ex officio: Michel Bellini, John Hart, Dan Mann, Kathy Martensen, and Linda Robbennolt

Absent: Cynthia Buckley, Kathryn LaBarre (excused), Rahul Raju, and Ann Reisner (excused)

Ex officio: Brenda Clevenger

Guests: Amy Edwards, Assistant Provost & Director; Kelly Ritter, Associate Dean of LAS; Meghan Hazen, Registrar; Allison McKinney, Director of Graduate Programs & Policy; Mary Lowry, Assistant Dean, ACES

A regular meeting of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) was called to order at 1:10 pm on Monday, April 9, 2018, in room 232 of the English Building with Chair Gay Miller presiding.

1. Introduction of Guests
   Guest introductions were made.

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

3. Chair's Remarks (G. Miller)
   Chair Miller commented she attended a College of Medicine retreat on April 3, 2018. Dean Li reported 32 students were admitted; 31 have accepted. Miller shared a few statistics about the new Fall 2018 class:
   - 47% female
   - 6URM
   - 17 states
   - 35% disadvantaged
   - 2 PhDs, 8 Masters
   - avg research hours > 2,000
   - one student is currently an assistant professor at Harvard!
   - 23 from engineering
   - 4 from mathematics
   - 1 CS
   - 1 computational biology
   - 2 biology
   - 3 biochem
   - 7 patents

   Our last EPC meeting had a good discussion about DPI-IIN; Miller had forgotten to bring the associated news articles. They are circulating now. Also, at the USC meeting with President Killeen and Dr. Pradeep Khanna last week, we discussed DPI and IIN. We learned that the membership for the Academic Executive Advisory Committee includes two people from UIS, four from UIC, and from here:
   - James Anderson, Dean of the College of Education;
   - Matt Ando, Associate Dean of Sciences, LAS;
   - Jen Bernhard, Donald Biggar Willett, Associate Dean for Research, College of Engineering;
   - Kevin Hamilton, Associate Dean FAA;
Lastly, Miller circulated an article that demonstrates the aging profile of Ontario professors (https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/ontarios-professors-are-retiring-later-putting-pressure-on-schools-budgets-study/article38216035/). With all of the uncertainty about pensions, national and tax uncertainties, and healthier aging populations, she expected a similar trend is occurring in the US and here. It does have implications for our university. Indeed, at SEC's last meeting, we talked about the role of emeritus faculty in the Senate. Miller has encouraged several different administrators over the past several years to develop models for helping pave a retirement path that encourages retirement while also keeping faculty engaged with the University after retirement. With the turnover of people in Swanlund, none of those people remain. A recent email exchange with Provost Cangellaris indicates he is aware and also concerned. Miller believes it does affect Educational Policy. We are seeing a renewal in the desire to improve teaching and building relationships with our students, and our university has been offering an annual teaching retreat for many years now. We know that intrinsic motivation and believing that teaching is important—and are linked to use of best teaching practices. Rewards and guilt appear to have no bearing on best practices. (https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/03/22/study-faculty-motivation-teaching-says-intrinsic-motivation-and-believing-teaching?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTjJJM05UbGxNVExpWXpRNSIsInQiOiJuSTAyWmNQeHE4WlpEd2hHVkzZTmZjaFkQ3RjZlF6UdyNjr1QUxMHBGSkrMUaXQ3Um4NPuejdyUyjN4bVlYdHlYMWtqQijEmIkcWVGWjdU2Q2bzFqcTNLCgi2OFVWQmpVOHZiXC9keFF5YTVTmRCSjpOVXV3bkxsZlRZeUUiQ%3D%3D)

Miller remarked that some EPC members may have attended our most recent teaching retreat. Perhaps this has come about in part because for most, an older professoriate means they have achieved their terminal rank and can provide energy to those areas which most interest and engage them, and for some people that means increased focus on teaching.

Martensen reported there are no Provost Updates. There is one Administrative Approval for discussion and vote. EP.18.62 comes from the College of Fine and Applied Arts, School of Music and Dr. Linda Moorhouse, Associate Director. The BMUS Vocal Performance curriculum in the Academic Catalog has been missing two courses for some time now (MUS 474 and 475 - Vocal Literature I and II). The Administrative Approval request is to add these two courses back into the current Academic Catalog.

McCarthy made a motion to approve EP.18.62. Meyer seconded. Chair Miller called for vote. The motion passed and will appear on the April 30, 2018, Senate agenda as a Report.

5. Graduate College Updates (J. Hart)
None

6. Old Business

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

1. EP.18.52 Proposal to establish a combined Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the College of Engineering

McCarthy reported that the most recent updates to the proposal did not get posted to the EPC website, including a detailed letter from Engineering outlining the financial arrangement. The other two points of clarification that were addressed included a suitable response to a statement in the initial proposal regarding funding (1.D. “funding will be no different”), and the deletion of
an ambiguous statement referring to "a change in the Master's degree" that had no bearing on the proposal.

McCarthy made a motion to accept EP.18.52 with the most recent updates. Meyer seconded. Discussion followed to make sure all prior questions asked by the EPC were answered by the Sponsor; they were according to McCarthy. Chair Miller then called for the vote. The motion passed. The proposal with updates will appear on the April 30, 2018, Senate agenda.

B. **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**

   Meyer reported we are still waiting on a response from the Sponsors regarding questions that were asked about EP.18.31. No further discussion occurred. If EPC members have questions that haven't been asked previously, please send those to Meyer.

7. **New Business**

   - **Enrollment Management** (Dan Mann and Andy Borst)
     
     Mann briefed the EPC on information regarding the Fall 2017 class. The slides from his presentation will be made available to the EPC on the EPC members’ website.

     Fall 2017 saw record enrollment. Six out of every 10 students who applied were admitted. That said, the EPC commented on a few areas of interest and concern during the presentation:

     o Declining Yield Rates. Since 2010 both in-state and international student enrollments have been dropping; this is common at most institutions mainly because of students applying to more institutions. Mann reported that Scholarships [money awarded] (54%) and Cost (47%) are the top two reasons beyond the general expected declines. Our biggest competitors include Michigan (top), UIC (newly emerged competitor), Purdue, UC-Berkely, Indiana, Wisconsin, NYU, UC-San Diego, UCLA, and Loyola Chicago. With Illinois students, UIC is our top competitor...for African Americans, Howard University....for LatinX/Hispanics, UIC. There is now more competition for students in Chicago, and slower growth of institutional aid. Other schools, like Alabama, are awarding merit based scholarships...not need based. Our Financial Aid office is not awarding out of state money to merit based students. We award more aid according to financial need than we do for merit. We need to grow more to be competitive. "Net price" is the major factor in school choice for graduating high school students.

     o At UIUC, we see growth potential mainly for online and graduate students.

     o UIUC is unlike the national trend on gender. In Fall 2017, we matriculated more males than females (53.7%).

     o Underrepresented Minorities: This presented the most area for concerns and questions by EPC members. UIUC Admissions makes their reports using "Federal definitions," which in Fall 2017 included African Americans (500 students for FA17), Latino/Hispanic (995 students for FA17), Native American (3 students for FA17) and NH/Pacific Islander (7 students for FA17).

     o Mann did not report on Asian, Middle Eastern, nor any type of blended or mixed race student categories. Not only should we be recognizing Asian students, we should identify where they are from (ex. southern and/or eastern Asia). Mann said students check "unknown" if they don't fit into the above basic categories. It would be good to have more carefully recorded demographics, as the federal definitions are lacking information. Edwards said there are additional data within DMI. Frost suggested failure to account for these other categories results in a poor overall definition for UIUC to be using and for people to know better what is happening with diversity. The committee noted the gross inequity in the African American enrollment numbers for Fall 2017. Huang added that the National Science foundation is using additional categories as well.
• Transfer Students...we have enrolled about 1380 students the last three years – numbers remain constant.
• Illinois high school graduates are declining. "Out Migration" of IL students to other states is increasing.
• Potential growth markets for UIUC include Texas, California and New York.
• UIUC fell out of the top 50 this year in the US News and World Report. Meyer remarked that the "20-students per class size" is one of the favorable markers used in the Report that may be working against us.

• Feedback Request on the New Budget Model
  No discussion was held.

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

  1. EP.18.58 Proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to rename and revise the MS in Public Health
     No discussion was held.

  2. EP.18.61 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish two concentrations, eliminate two existing concentrations, rename and revise one existing concentration, revise one existing concentration, and revise the core major requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
     McCarthy reported that NRES went through a thoughtful evaluation of their BS degree in this proposal. While there were minor grammar-type items, there were no major issues. He added that there were many letters of support from various programs affected by the revisions.

     McCarthy asked for discussion. While some concentrations are to be eliminated, there will be space for the students to expand into other programs. ACES makes very good and sound reasons to modify the degree. The field experience is changed as well.

     Chair Miller asked for questions since a representative from ACES, Mary Lowry, was in the room. Nolan Miller expressed to Lowry how impressed he was with the proposal and all of the letters of support in the proposal. Other members also remarked about how thoughtful the proposal was in its entirety.

     McCarthy then made a motion to pass EP.18.61. Meyer seconded. Chair Miller called for the vote. The motion passed. The proposal will appear on the April 30, 2018, Senate agenda.

• Subcommittee B: Eric Meyer, Chair; Theo Moton, Ray Benekohal, Linda Moorhouse, Phoebe Handler

  1. EP.18.57 Establish a New Joint Degree Program for the MA in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and MS in Library and Information Science, School of Information Sciences
     Meyer commented that the proposal is a joint program with two degrees. He expressed a few concerns, namely with (1) how students were accepted into the joint program, (2) what happens if a student decides to complete only one of the programs, (3) how often certain courses would be offered, (4) the proposal looks more like a degree major and a minor, and (5) the proposal looked like LAS was trying to tie assistantships to one part of the program. Meyer has not had time to communicate with the Sponsors about these concerns.

     Hart answered the question about the admissions process for a joint degree: students must be admitted to both programs. He also answered the question about students wanting to finish only
one half of the program: students in a joint degree program cannot graduate with a stand-alone degree. They must reapply to one of the programs in order to graduate from it. Hart also remarked that the total number of credits for this joint program is larger than a major and a minor. The minimum number of hours for a master’s degree on this campus is 32 hours. For a joint degree program, you can have 12 fewer hours than the minimum of two degrees (64 hours), so a joint degree minimum total is 52 hours. EP.18.57 exceeds the minimum standard for a joint degree at 56 total hours.

Hart reported that the requirements for each degree in this joint proposal were scrutinized at the Grad College. In both cases, the joint degrees maintain their own individual requirements, while sharing electives.

Meyer asked that any other concerns please go to him. He will communicate with the Sponsor(s) on the current questions and others that come in. Ritter (LAS Asso Dean) asked for specific clarification on all concerns.

Chair Miller then suspended discussion on EP.18.57 as it was 2:52 pm.

- **Subcommittee C**: Steve Michael, Chair; Rahul Raju, Ann Reisner, David Huang, Kathryn LaBarre, Linda Robbennolt, ex-officio

1. **EP.18.59 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to revise the concentration requirements for six of the concentrations within the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics**

   Michael introduced the proposal, stating that within the revision of the six concentrations in the BS in Agricultural and Consumer Economics, there are new courses, new requirements, and new electives. Some concentrations also eliminate courses, substituting others in their place.

   Discussion followed in regard to the Farm Management concentration. The number of hours is increasing, but this concentration has the fewest majors. Why is this? Is there an intention to phase this out? Mary Lowry, ACES College Contact, remarked the ACES curriculum and course committee was asked to add the enrollment numbers after the proposal had been written. There are no plans to phase out this concentration; ACES wants to serve the students better.

   Discussion then centered on the letter to Economics that was included in the proposal (Appendix B), the courses mentioned in the letter, and no response from Economics. McCarthy remarked that the courses mentioned in the letter do not exist anywhere in the proposal. After further discussion with Lowry, it was decided the letter in Appendix B is incorrect. Lowry will supply and forward another letter from ACES.

   Michael also asked for clarification on two proposal sentences that refer to the character of lecture/discussion courses. Lowry responded there will be no change as to how the courses are taught. All courses will be supported by ACES. Michael also reported that he corresponded with Phil Geil about the proposal and received additional minor edits.

   Michael made a motion to approve both EP.18.59 and EP.18.60 and vote on them as one package without a letter from ACES or a response letter from Economics. The motion was seconded.

   Chair Miller asked for further discussion. Frost asked if we were setting a precedent by voting without all materials present in the proposal. Miller responded we are not ready to immediately send materials, but at the same time, we are not under time pressures since the Senate meeting to provide proposals won’t occur until the end of April. So EPC could wait one week to acquire letter(s). Meyer remarked it is not uncommon for the EPC to pass proposals without all changes (items) completed and received by the vote. Benekohal then suggested we might want to wait to see if there is any type of response from Economics.
Chair Miller then called for the vote reminding members that the motion was to approve EP.18.59 and EP.18.60. The motion passed. The proposals (with minor corrections) will appear on the April 30, 2018, Senate agenda.

2. **EP.18.60 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to revise the core major requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics**

Michael introduced the proposal (this occurred prior to the discussion for EP.18.59) stating the first major revision is seen in the Advanced Comp requirements. Sponsors want to give students the option to choose any course listed by campus to meet the Advanced Composition requirement. Other revisions include the addition of ACE 341 to the Department Requirements, and revising their study abroad/international experience by having students “choose one course from the following list or take an approved international experience with at least 3 hours of credit.”

With ACE 341, Michael had a question about the course credit hours of 1-2. Mary Lowry, ACES Contact, remarked there are different sections with differing credits, depending on the concentrations. She is not sure exactly why this is, or what determines an actual credit hour. Students are required to take a section that corresponds to their major.

Discussion then centered on the lack of a response letter from Economics to the letter shown in Appendix B. This letter in the proposal, however, seems to correspond to another proposal (EP.18.59). This raised a philosophical question as to whether or not outside departments can affect another department’s curricular revisions. Historically, when this happens, Ed Pol has asked for letters to make sure any departments that might be affected by curricular changes be notified as to what is happening and then have an opportunity to respond. In the spirit of cooperation, all parties should communicate and come to an agreement, or at least be aware of the situation. Meyer suggested we ask for a response letter from Economics. Lowry will follow up on this.

This proposal passed jointly with EP.18.59 – see notes above.

No more discussion.

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Linda R. Moorhouse, DMA  
EPC member