Education Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: November 6, 2020

Members: Lindsey Darvin, Alyson Dearie, Laura Dunbar, Eric Edlund, Margaret Gichuru, Thomas Hanford, Maaike Oldemans, Abby Thomas, Carol VanDerKarr, Jeffrey Walkuski, Chris Widdall (Chair)

Members Absent: None

Guests:Nancy Diller

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Comments/Discussion** | **Action** |
| **Approval of Minutes** | Minor changes to minutes from Oct. 23—two members noted as absent added as present (Thomas, Oldemans) | **Minutes approved** |
|  |  |  |
| **Old Business** | Widdall: few responses from general faculty to vetting suggested changes to Minor/Concentration document  Next feedback will be from College Senate |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **New Business** | 1. **General Review of Minor/Concentration Vetting Comments**   Widdall: In relation to Math concentrations in other departments, especially Education, Math Dept Chair David Dickerson relayed concern expressed by senior faculty abou the ownership of concentrations and minors. Namely, senior Math faculty feel that 1) Math ought to be acknowledged in all math minors earned outside the department, and 2) all students who have earned a math concentration ought to be able to have it show on their transcripts.  Edlund: Geology does not want a minor in geology.  Widdall: Departments are able to detail department-specific policies in the catalog  Van der Kerr: Programs “own” their minors so that is where approval lies. It is also important to note that a rationale is necessary if students are going to be prevented from using credits they have earned toward a minor or concentration. Students should be able to record and use credits they have earned. |  |
|  | 1. **Credit-granting Institution and Copyediting Suggested for Minor/Concentration Document**   Widdall: Course exceptions for transfer must be granted by the Dean.  Other vetting suggestions related to copyediting:  “at least half the credits must be taken at this institution”  Various other minor edits accepted, including “of a minor”; “the catalog”  Change to definition: “A concentration is a determined set of courses provided as an additional area of focus within a given major or minor”  Hanford: Financial Aid reports that “an approved program of study” is specific language needed in order that financial aid may be provided for a concentration  Widdall: Proposed motion to move document forward to Senate Steering Committee; moved by Walkuski and seconded by Thomas   1. **Review of Feedback from Miller and Delaune re SGA Proposal for AGP**   Agreed: all processing times be changed to five days  Agreed: Chairs and Deans should not be circumvented in command process (Section J)  Agreed: Language should be changed to emphasize Tribunal’s consensual authority rather than Chair’s sole authority  Agreed: “Emended” is better than “decreased” for adjustment of penalties; Thomas noted that the Student Code of Conduct may play an essential role in determining the best language to use  General Discussion:  Widdall noted need to ensure a positive, productive conversation with SGA about their proposed changes to AGP  Agreed: Positive, invitational discussion with SGA reps is the goal. Hanford suggests inviting SGA to meeting, then giving them the document to review before having them back a second time to discuss in-depth. Noted that this course would extend into the spring. Idea met favorably. | **Motion to forward Minor/Concentration document to Senate Steering Committee approved**  **Thomas to provide link to Student Code**  **Widdall inviting SGA Chair Blavos to next EPC meeting** |
|  |  |  |
| **Adjourned** | 10:55 a.m. |  |
|  | Respectfully submitted by Laura Dunbar |  |