Fall 9-1-2015

Minutes, September 1, 2015

Present: <u>Faculty</u>: Tim Bloser, Dave Dehnel, Ann Ericson, Ellen Hay, Reuben Heine, Taddy Kalas, Vicki Phipps, Forrest Stonedahl, Shara Stough

<u>Students</u>: Allan Daly, Jacqueline Jastrzebski,

<u>Ex Officio Members</u>: Liesl Fowler, Wendy Hilton-Morrow, Brian Katz

Guests: Mike Egan

Absent: Christopher Saladin, Philip Tunnicliff, Samantha DeForest-Davis

Start Time: 4:33
End Time: 5:27

I. Approval of Minutes from 5/12/15 *(approved)*
Introductions were made for the new members.

II. Announcements

A. The new governance procedures were adopted by the faculty.

This means we will no longer have a consent agenda from Gen Ed. and when we report our actions to faculty they will become final after one week instead of two.

B. Senior Inquiry assessment and a new AACU grant on "Signature Work"

Mike Egan was on hand to introduce the LEAP Challenge…challenges colleges and universities to provide all students the opportunity to complete a piece of "signature work," a project highly geared to the students' interests and goals. There is a lot of overlap between this and the senior inquiry guidelines. AACU team is charged to do a leap challenge so it is a good time to review senior inquiry. The Leap team is taking a look at all SI syllabi across campus to see how they align with SI guidelines and with the signature work. Gen Ed is paying attention to it because it is a good tool to tie everything together. The AACU team could pick up where EPC left off on the review of senior inquiry. We will not tackle every question that EPC came up with though.

Discussion:
– *Advising needs to prepare students and they will need tools to help them.*
– *Senior inquiry is a great fit for the LEAP Challenge as it seems to be the one mechanism we have on campus that might ensure that every student has the chance to complete a piece of meaningful "signature work."*
– *There is other work other than SI that also fits into this. Learning portfolio fits into it. SI is the best avenue to get **every** student to complete this, though.*

- *SI was not adopted as a graduation requirement, but there were a lot of incentives to do it. It is worth revisiting. Incentives have gone away and cost/resources should be a part of the conversation.*
- *Interdisciplinary is good, but helping students do their signature work in their majors should be the focus.*
- *A student working on a team SI can use the reflection piece to individualize their signature work.*

III.   Some Carry-Over Items from Last Year

A. Procedure for Declaring Majors: dropping the previous adviser signature
EPC endorsed this policy in spring of 2014, but it was not submitted to the faculty.
Kristen Douglas asks that we do that now.
Supporting material: email from Liesl Fowler

*Previous advisor gets notified anyway, so the signature is an unnecessary step. They would like to proceed with faculty approval so they can change the form. Move this on as an action of EPC. Motion to approve procedure change was made by Taddy Kalas and seconded by Forrest Stonedahl. **Motion carried.***

B. Grading for Club Sports
Last spring we received a proposal for pass/fail grading for club sports. Further discussion suggested that an approach which seems generally acceptable is to specify pass/no credit grading for club sports and varsity sports and to note that this is an exception to the general rule against counting pass/no credit courses towards graduation requirements.

Possible language for catalog: No graduation requirements may be taken as Pass/No Credit [, *with the exception of varsity and club sports that count toward the physical education requirement*].
Supporting Material: Email from Evelyn Campbell and HEPE proposal from last spring

There was a discussion of whether to extend pass/no-credit grading to varsity sports or just to stick with the original issue of students handing out grades in club sports. Both are typically grading on a participation basis. Generally As are given. It is the students who do not attend classes who receive Ds and Fs. HEPE activity classes would continue to be able to receive a letter grade. The letter grade might be viewed as an incentive/reward for participating in varsity sports. Let's check with the coaches – Dave will do that. We will revisit this.

IV.   New Business

A. Substantially Revised Education Course: EDUC 310 Computers in Education (2 credits)
This is an existing course which Mike Scarlett wants to substantially revise to make use of a blended learning approach, reducing the number of required face to face meetings.
Supporting material: Recommendation to add course form and syllabus.

What is our general policy on blended learning courses? We previously approved an accounting course, although that teacher is no longer here. In both that case and this, the use of blended learning was integral to the content of the course. How do you teach computer integrated learning without doing computer integrated learning? Curious on how this works but no problems with this. Motion to approve the revision to EDUC-310 was made by Ellen Hay and seconded by Allan Daly. **Motion carried.**

B. New Geography Course: GEOG 270 Geographic Perspectives
Supporting material: Recommendation to add course form, syllabus, revisions to Geography major adopted last year.

We will wait for this until the other Geography courses clear Gen Ed, hopefully next week.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Oliger