

11-24-2015

Minutes, November 24, 2015

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Educational Policies Committee
11/24/15
4:30 p.m., Old Main 127
Meeting Minutes

Present:

Faculty: Dave Dehnel, Ann Ericson, Ellen Hay, Reuben Heine
Taddy Kalas, Vicki Phipps, Forrest Stonedahl, Shara Stough

Students: Allan Daly, LaDonna Miller, Christopher Saladin

Ex Officio Members: Liesl Fowler, Wendy Hilton-Morrow, Brian Katz

I. Approval of Minutes from 11/17/15: **(approved)**

II. Continuing Business

A. New Business Course: BUSN 308 Entrepreneurship for Non-Business Majors
*Approval of the new course moved by Ellen Hay, seconded by Allan Daly: **motion carried.***

B. Senior Inquiry: Follow-up Discussion of LEAP proposals for SI
Supporting material: LEAP Team report on SI Syllabi

-Brian indicated that the report is not meant as a proposal for action right now.

-There discussion on how to move ahead on recommendation 2, promoting student choice over topic or senior inquiry. Some departments have more freedom of choice than others.

Departments with many majors, like biology and business, tend to have a limited range of choice within a pre-selected topic or focus. On the other hand, the aspiration is for signature work, which assumes student agency.

-Faculty expertise can be a limiting factor for student choice.

III. New Business

A. New Swedish Course: SCAN 325 New Swedish Cinema [PA]

Apparently the weekly film screening is optional. We assume the students can see the films on their own. Presumably, seeing the films is essential.

*Motion to approve the new course by Taddy Kalas, seconded by Ellen Hay. **Motion carried.***

B. New Art Course: ART 362 Screen Printing [PA]

Vicki explained that some of their courses are listed as Art, Some as Graphic Design. That is intended.

*Shara Stough moved approval of the new course, Chris Saladin seconded. **Motion carried.***

C. New History Course: HIST 160 American Civil War [PP]

The syllabus is sketchy on the structure of the course—how do the readings of original materials relate to the assignments, for example. Dave will ask for more information.

D. Change in Chemistry AP Policy

-Under this policy all students will take 121. If they get a 4, they skip 122. If they get a 5, they skip ahead to 200.

-The impact on transfer students was discussed.

-Why should the distinction between 4 and 5 on the AP test be used as an indicator of what topics are covered relative to our chemistry sequence? Perhaps the subject matter tends to be cumulative.

-How many come in with AP chemistry? Perhaps 10-20 get a 4 or a 5. Some who get a high score choose to take the courses anyway.

-We should let Chemistry try it and see if it works better for them.

Motion to approve the new Chemistry AP policy by Vicki Phipps, seconded by Taddy Kalas.

Motion carried.

E. Exam Week Policies: Wendy Hilton Morrow has an issue to discuss.

-There have been issues with papers assigned late in the term. Do we need to clarify what is a major assignment?

-The distinction between a Take home exam and a paper is not clear.

-Should we take papers out of the policy? Should we extend the policy to courses that have both an exam and a paper?

-How to protect students from unfair late assignments at the end of the term?

-End of term assignments should have sufficient notice.

-What about a course with a unit exam in week 10 and have a paper in finals week?

Dave Dehnel, EPC Chair