1-12-2016

Minutes, January 12, 2016

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Recommended Citation
"Minutes, January 12, 2016" (2016). Educational Policies Committee.
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Present: Faculty: Dave Dehnel, Ellen Hay, Ann Ericson, Reuben Heine, Shara Stough
Students: Allan Daly, Jacqueline Jastrzebski, Christopher Saladin
Ex Officio Members: Liesl Fowler, Wendy Hilton-Morrow, Brian Katz

Absent: Tim Bloser, Taddy Kalas, Vicki Phipps, Forrest Stonedahl, LaDonna Miller, Samantha DeForest-Davis,

Start Time: 4:36
End Time: 5:25

I. Approval of Minutes from 12/15/15 (approved)

II. New Business

This course is to be taught this spring by a visiting scholar from Sweden and is submitted for a one time approval.
Supporting Material: Recommendation to Add Course form, syllabus, memo from department

Because this course is being taught by a visiting scholar in their first term at Augustana, EPC and Gen Ed have authority to grant it approval as a one time only offering.
The professor from Sweden will need to be made aware of the Augustana grading scheme.
Alan Daly moved to approve GRSC-2xx for one time only. Seconded by Ellen Hay. Motion carried.

B. New Chemistry course for Berlin foreign study program:
CHEM 305 Atoms, Molecules, and Energy [PN]
This course is part of an LC with a foreign study component. The LC and PN has been approved by Gen Ed. The foreign study program has been approved by IOCP and EPC. The other course in the LC, HIST 381, has already been approved by EPC.
Supporting Material: Recommendation to Add Course form, syllabus, PN and LC approval forms, Berlin itinerary, syllabus for HIST 381.
Christopher Saladin moved to approve CHEM-305 and it was seconded by Ellen Hay. **Motion carried.**

C. New English Course: ENGL 125e Introduction to Environmental Literature  
**Supporting Material: Recommendation to Add Course form, syllabus**

*This has a minimal syllabus. What are the missing sections on the syllabus? Discussion on learning objectives, how assignments connect to learning objectives, more on grading.*

*This is a new course. The 300 level course still exists, although the name was changed to Advanced Environmental Literature. Perhaps that was a stretch on the notion of an editorial change. Editorial changes are submitted to the Dean’s office and they are pretty good at flagging substantive changes and sending them to us. Concern was raised about passing this with no LP when all the other 125’s have them.*

*We should request more information from the professor. It is important that he also pursue the LP for the course.*

Ellen Hay moved to **request further information** and it was seconded by Alan Daly. **Motion carried.**

D. Online Competencies Curriculum  
**Wendy will explain this new administrative initiative.**  
**Supporting material: Online Competencies Curriculum (Teagle)**

*Augustana is part of a Grant for 4 colleges to work together to identify skills gaps that need help and create Online Modules to educate students in these areas. The Dean’s office is asking for faculty to pilot some of them. Drafts of are completed. Some teachers have agreed to use the modules in their courses as a trial. Ultimately these modules would be generally available for use. Need them to exist inside of courses during the pilot but after they could exist outside of courses.*

*A company called Words and Numbers has developed a platform for them that can be accessed through Moodle with a moodle log-on. Smart Sparrow is used because of the high end analytics that can be returned on each teacher.*

*Resources are also going to be developed to help faculty. There are some similar skills modules in Lynda.com. Searchability of the video transcripts in Lynda.com is tremendously helpful. The content comes from the colleges and is owned by the colleges. Make it available to other colleges? For a fee? Assessment measures have been developed to assess the modules and the students.*

E. Raising of Enrollment Caps to 30 for 100 and 200 Level Courses (except for FYI)  
This policy was recently announced to department chairs by Dean Lawrence. Should EPC join the discussion?
There are/will be 34 people on sabbatical next year, and there is usually only 10. The goal is fewer faculty. We are trying to cut the budget. We should limit the courses up front, not cancel later. Why isn’t it part of the planning process? Trying to raise the faculty to student ratio. Are large introductory sections the place to cut? Senior Inquiry uses a lot of resources. Teaching first year courses in a large format is not a good idea. Case by case management isn’t the answer either. Consistency of policy across departments is desired. What should EPC do if anything? Is there a role for us to play? Faculty council can tackle this also. Is this set in stone?

Dave Dehnel, EPC Chair