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Minutes, January 26, 2016

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Educational Policies Committee 1/26/16 4:30 p.m., Old Main 127 Meeting Minutes

Present: Faculty: Tim Bloser, Dave Dehnel, Ann Ericson, Ellen Hay, Reuben Heine,

Ana Borderia-Garcia, Forrest Stonedahl, Shara Stough

Students: Jacqueline Jastrzebski,

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

Guests: Pareena Lawrence

Absent: Vicki Phipps, Allan Daly, Samantha DeForest-Davis, LaDonna Miller, Christopher

Saladin

Start Time: 4:33 **End Time:** 5:25

I. Approval of Minutes from 1/19/16 (approved)

II. Continuing Business

A. Enrollment Caps: Dean Pareena Lawrence will be attending to answer our questions. Supporting Material: EPC questions on enrollment caps.

Questions/Discussion:

- Reasoning for the new enrollment caps was basically the state of the budget. Hiring new faculty or increasing salaries are up in the air. We are allowing those already in the hiring process to continue. We are not renewing visiting faculty/adjuncts. There is very little option to decrease budget. Due to time constraints caused by the budget process and the master schedule process, it had to be done quickly.
- The enrollment cap impacts 5-6 departments. Pareena is willing to have conversations for individual cases, such as writing intensive courses and foreign languages. This is meant to be a short term fix. The goal is for 2 years and after that to go back to caps of 25. Of course, this depends on future budget developments.
- Policy for fall term is to continue to hold them at 19 because of the rankings. Pareena would like to increase Psychology courses, though. 5% of your ranking depends on number of classes fewer than 19. Since it is a low percentage Pareena doesn't think it would impact our ranking that much if we raised the fall sections, but she's not willing to take the fall if it does. In the rankings, it's just as important to not have classes over 50 and we don't have many of those if any.
- Pareena is working on this department by department so she hasn't gotten through all the departments yet. Department chairs can talk to Pareena about different options in order to accomplish the same thing; she is very flexible.

- There is money for emergencies, maternity leaves or adding sections where the enrollment is large.
- There is not a target for number of sections, except for staying within the budget.
- There will be about 40 sabbaticals each year for next 3 years. Eligibility has always been that high but in the past faculty hadn't applied. Non tenured also get sabbatical their third year. There are 150 full time tenure track faculty.
- There should be equal to, or more, total seats next year.
- If your under enrolled course gets cancelled, you can do a 100 level course because 1st years will not have registered yet or you can make it up the following year.
- We have not cancelled a 100 level course. Usually it is a 300 level course. If it is required for their major and someone won't graduate on time, we won't cancel the course.
- Minimum enrollment of 8 for elective classes still holds.
- -As to retention, there are things in place that will catch if there is a negative fall out from the students.
- Faculty can spread assignments out so they are not all coming in at once.
- The classroom's capacity ultimately determines the caps. So if a class can only hold 26, then that will be the cap.

Members of EPC can be resources to our departments and divisions about explaining the time constraints and flexibility of this process.

III. New Business

A. New Liberal Studies courses and Learning Community: LSC 350 Comprehensive Learning Portfolio (3 credits) and LSC 351 Learning Portfolio Experiential (1 credit) Supporting material: Recommendation to add course forms, syllabi, supplement to recommendation to add for LSC 350, LC approval form.

Note: This LC was originally proposed as LSC 350-CR (3 credits) and LSC 350-NC (0 credits), however, it has evolved into a 3 + 1 LC (350 and 351). Some of the documentation reflects the original course numbers.

Ouestions/Discussion:

- Adding a 4 credit course to do what should be done in advising and CORE, may take away from those two things.
- There are some students who would benefit from a deeper form of reflection and this fulfills something that can't be done with advising. A year long course is a long haul, so not many students will do it, but it will produce a great product.
- The 1 credit course taught by staff is limited to staffers with masters degrees.
- Pilot was done with highly motivated students. Now that it has an LC it may be with students just wanting to check an LC off their list.

Shara Stough motioned to approve LSC-350 & 351 and it was seconded by Forrest Stonedahl. **Motion carried with one dissent.**

B. New Women and Gender Studies Course: WGST 235 Bystander Intervention (1 Credit)

Supporting material: Recommendation to add course form and syllabus

It is being taught by an Augie grad from Safe Path Survivor Resources. She is the community rep on a standing committee of the college. This course will also be listed under Sociology and Psychology, approval forms for those are forth coming.

Ellen Hay moves to approve WGST-235 and it was seconded by Jackie Jastrzebski. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted, Julie Oliger