

9-6-2016

Minutes, September 6, 2016

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Educational Policies Committee
Meeting minutes
9/6/16
4:30 p.m., Old Main 127

Present: Faculty: Jason Mahn, Dave Dehnel, Taddy Kalas, Brian Leech,
David Snowball, Forrest Stonedahl, Shara Stough, James Van Howe

Students: Christopher Saldin

Ex Officio Members: Liesl Fowler, Wendy Hilton-Morrow, Mike Egan

Guests:

Absent: Ann Ericson

Start Time: 4:34

End Time: 5:37

- I. Approval of Minutes from 8/30/16 (*approved*)
- II. Continuing Business: None
 - A. We need a volunteer to chair the committee during winter term when I am on sabbatical. It is lots of fun!
 - B. Clean-up from Last Year: Two new Theater courses were passed last year by EPC, but were not reported to the faculty for final approval due to resignation of the faculty member who would have taught them. That position has been filled, and the Theater Department has requested that we carry them forward.
THEA 243 Beginning Musical Theatre
THEA 343 Musical Theatre History [D]
- III. New Business
 - A. Timeline for the Transition to Semesters: What is the role of EPC?
Supporting material: Draft timeline from Faculty Council

Questions/Discussion:

- Is this a time to look at courses that have been sitting there a really long time? With all that needs to get done during the switch to semesters it is probably not possible.*
- All program approvals will all be coming at once. Is that doable? No. Maybe a truncated job, but not a good job.*
- Can't build a degree audit until there are complete programs.*
- Every major is linked to general education, so that needs to be complete. General education curriculum will be done at the end of this year.*

- *We might be approving skeleton programs with course numbers but no meat and then go back later and approve the details. First approve courses and catalog description and later go back and approve the syllabi, etc.*
- *By what criteria would something on that list not be approved? What will program approval look like? We need a set of parameters such as, no increase in faculty, etc. We need to get people to think about the big picture.*
- *We can develop the guidelines/principals for the process of getting the program/course review. We should focus on the policies. Process has to go before the faculty. The process needs articulation.*
- *Departments should rationalize what they are doing. What is reasonable to ask a department to do?*
- *The question about the SIs when developing programs how to address this...articulate it's role if any.*
- *How much do departments contribute to Gen Ed?*
- *The size of major is not only a sensitive issue for Gen Ed, but also for double majors. One of the trickiest things is going to be how load plays out.*
- *The guideline should be put out by the end of this year. Some broad outlines to get departments working.*
- *What happens to SI will have an impact on how majors are re-designed.*
- *EPC could produce a white paper to start the conversation and give preliminary guidelines.*
- *Until we know if its 4 or 3 credits, there isn't much you can do.*
- *Let departments know what is going to drive the approval process.*
- *First set of program approvals are due in Fall and the second set due in Winter.*
- *Have a goal of finishing approvals in the spring.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Julie Oliger*