

EPC Minutes  
September 14, 2004

Attending: Sharon Broadwater, Cory Butler, John Charles, John Eisele, Kristen Grabow, George Grayson, Phil Kearns, Justin Kliger, Arthur Knight, Larry Leemis, Raymond McCoy, Deborah Morse, Ed Pratt

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm in the Colony Room of the University Center.

Ed Pratt described plans for expanding summer school. Specifically, more guaranteed offerings (70, as compared to 25 in previous years) are planned. In addition, a printed brochure and a web site are planned to publicize the summer school. Although there was no vote required on this item, there was no objection from the committee.

EPC responded to a request from FAC for individuals to serve on committees related to IT's Laptop Project. Phil Kearns will serve on the Academic Technology Committee; Larry Leemis on the Software Committee.

The committee considered a request from the English department for input on its plan to create a number of "topics" courses. Under a single topics course, a specific topic could be regularly offered. It would also be possible to have transient topics offered under the same course number. Students would be allowed to take a topics course several times, assuming the topics covered differed sufficiently. The committee had two concerns about this plan:

- The repeating topics seem to violate the long-standing rule that once a topic was presented three times in a topics course, it must be promoted to a "regular" course with its own number and catalog entry. (Note: the committee is unsure about the nature of the "three times rule" and will try to track it down.)
- Degree evaluation under the Banner system will be impossible to automate if some topics are required and some are not. The Registrar's Office is concerned that degree evaluation will require that students be certified "by hand" in many cases. In addition to being potentially cumbersome, this would make it practically impossible for students to check their progress towards satisfying degree requirements through Banner.

Cory Butler volunteered to meet with English to make them aware of the problems that the new topics rubric present for Banner and to help them adjust their curriculum redesign to achieve their departmental

goals while remaining consistent with the ability to automate degree evaluation under Banner. EPC, with great speed and enthusiasm, accepted her kind offer.

The following new course proposals were considered:

APSC 431, Applied Cellular Neuroscience: APPROVED  
APSC 432, Applied Systems Neuroscience: APPROVED  
APSC 495/496, Honors: APPROVED  
ENGL 498, Internship: APPROVED (English notified of form that needs to be filed with the Dean's Office before the internship can be done)  
FILM 351, Special Topics in Film Studies: APPROVED  
FILM 401, Seminar in Film Studies: APPROVED  
ENGL 419, Study of a Single Author or Auteur: TABLED (will be part of Cory's discussion with English)

The following course change proposals were considered:

ENGL 203, Study of a Single Author or Auteur. Title changed to "British Literature I," description changed, GER 4A designation removed (GER 5 retained): APPROVED, but not until Fall 2005 so the catalog can properly inform students of the accurate GER designation).

ENGL 204, Major English Writers, 18th and 19th Centuries. Title changed to "British Literature II," description changed, GER 4A designation removed (GER 5 retained): APPROVED, but not until Fall 2005 so the catalog can properly inform students of the accurate GER designation).

ENGL 207, Major American Writers. Title changed to "American Literature: Themes and Issues," description changed, GER 4A designation removed (GER 5 retained): APPROVED, but not until Fall 2005 so the catalog can properly inform students of the accurate GER designation).

ENGL 439, English Novel to 1832. Number and title changed to "ENGL 333, The Novel to 1832." Description changed. APPROVED.

INRL 390, Topics in International Relations. Credits changed from 3 to 1-4. APPROVED.

WMST 420, Women and Popular Culture. Credits changed from 3 to 4. APPROVED, and 4 credits applied retroactively to the offering this (Fall04) semester. The vote on this proposal was 5 in favor and 4 opposed. George Grayson was opposed to the proposal due to the "narrowness and anemic content" of the course.

The following GER application was considered:

ENGL 210, Tennyson and the Pre-Raphaelite Poets. APPROVED for GER

5. Note that this applies to this specific topic in ENGL 210, not ENGL 210 in general.

In the discussion of WMST 420, the committee agreed that the policy for assigning a 4th credit to a class with three lecture hours was currently too vague to be applied uniformly. The committee will take up the issue during this year.

Ed Pratt will draft specific proposals concerning transfer credit and procedures for independent study for a future meeting.

Kristen Grabow, student member of EPC and Secretary of Academic Policy for Student Assembly, presented a document with seven projects and proposals. Several items were discussed. The only item on which there was general agreement was "5-Minute Breaks for Tuesday/Thursday Classes." The Dean's Office will send a memo to faculty informing them that a five minute break is permitted in 80-minute classes. Members of the committee were astonished to hear that time for a break was one reason for the 160 minutes of weekly class time in TTh classes as opposed to the 150 minutes in MWF classes.

A procedural question concerning voting membership was raised during the meeting. The consensus was that guests and students were not voting members. However, the web polls will be opened to all guests and students as if they were voting members. This is in keeping with the EPC tradition of NO votes and abstentions in the web poll triggering discussion of a proposal by the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20.