

Educational Policy Committee  
Minutes: April 14, 2005

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

The meeting was called to order at 1pm.

The chair asked members to email any corrections to the minutes of the March 31 meeting. No corrections were received. The minutes stand as submitted.

1. New Course Applications

ENGL 210, Shakespeare's Language APPROVED

WMST 370, In Search of a Goddess APPROVED

Last sentence of catalog description changed to explicitly include the referent "tradition."

2. Course Change Applications:

DANC 315, Group Choreography TABLED

Chair has contacted submitter and asked 3 questions:

- 1) Are the activities (rehearsals and performances) you cite to justify the 4th credit newly added components of the course?  
If so, when were they added?
- 2) Approximately how many minutes per week would be required for those activities (averaged over a 14-week semester)?
- 3) How are these activities fundamentally different from homework assigned in 3-credit courses? (An opinion was expressed that equated the time spent in rehearsals and performances with time spent doing assigned homework.)

3. Curriculum Change Applications:

Dance APPROVED

Change in requirements for the minor in Dance.

European Studies APPROVED

Small modifications to the new requirements EPC approved on March 31 (passed ISCAPC).

Government APPROVED

Elimination of the GOVT minor.

In a continuation of the discussion from the January 27 meeting, GOVT cited enrollment pressures in upper-level courses as the primary motivation. Discussion centered around whether or not eliminating the minor would alleviate those pressures. Concern about limiting the choice of minors for students was also voiced. VOTE: 5-3-1.

#### Literary and Cultural Studies APPROVED

Change in concentration computing proficiency requirement.  
(Passed with 1 negative vote after minor rant by the chair, and concern that the course used to satisfy the requirement makes no mention of computers.)

#### 4. GER Applications:

ENGL 210, Shakespeare's Language (GER 5) APPROVED

#### 5. New GER Application Forms

The structure of the new forms, which reflect the new definitions of the GERs and the PIE-based assessment process, was discussed. It was generally felt that the forms would benefit from putting a streamlined course information section above the section dealing with expectations and evaluation. It was also felt that each expectation/evaluation item should be handled separately.

The chair will streamline the course information section for presentation at the next (and last) meeting.

#### 6. Washington Semester

EPC expressed general support for the proposed program. Concerns were raised about staffing and the use of 4-credit courses.

#### 7. GER 4 and 4 Credit for Study Abroad

Approved following catalog modification from Ed Pratt:

GERs 4 and 5 may be satisfied through study abroad if approval for the course has been received from the Committee on Degrees. To be approved, the course must meet the criteria of the GER and must deal substantially with the country or region where the student is on the study abroad program. For additional information, see <http://www.wm.edu/fas/undergraduate/studentforms.php>.