

## **Educational Policy Committee Minutes, October 30, 2014**

Present: John Gilmour and Jack Martin (co-chairs), Sallie Marchello, Cory Springer, Monica Potkay, Lu Ann Homza, Bill Hutton, Josh Erlich, Weizhen Mao, Peter Vishton

Scribe: Josh Erlich

**1. The minutes** of October 24, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

### **2. Review of FAS Motions and Plans**

- a) "In order to highlight the first-year experience and to provide continuity with first-year seminars, all COLL 100's should use the number 100 (e.g, HIST 100, ENSP 100, COLL 100)."
- b) "There shall be a COLL prefix available (but not required) for COLL courses."
- c) "For two years (AY 2015-17), EPC will allow COLL 100's to be as large as 75 students if they have discussion sections of no more than 25 students, or to be as large as 40 students with no discussion sections. This would allow a pilot study of the effect of class size on learning objectives."

Discussion regarding Motion (b):

Barbette Spaeth has proposed a substitute motion to require the COLL 100 courses to all have COLL prefixes. EPC disagrees with this approach, but not unanimously. Discussion of ordering of motions in the FAS meeting agenda: Cory Springer: Better to present Spaeth's amendment and not the 3 possibilities Spaeth gives for how to include department designation in addition if necessary, because one of them (the first) is currently not technically possible.

Discussion regarding Motion (c):

Language of motion has changed since mailed by FAC to FAS. FAC has recommended expanding the language of the motion in order to allay concerns that the large class sizes of COLL 100s will be routine rather than the occasional experiment. Motion (J. Martin): Additional language regarding qualification for larger class sizes should be presented as an amendment by EPC. The following language will be presented as an amendment to be added to Motion (c):

"COLL 100 courses of all sizes will be assessed over a period of two years to ensure that they fulfill learning objectives. The default size of COLL 100 will remain 25. A larger class will be approved only following an application by the instructor, who will explain how the larger class will be able to meet the COLL 100 learning objectives."

Approved with one no vote.

### **3. Makeup of the COLL 100 committee**

For this year, EPC should delegate the committee. FAC is worried about the balance between areas of Center for Liberal Arts Fellows who would serve on the committee. IT and Swem members should not be voting members. EPC will recommend makeup of the committee ASAP.

### **4. Notice about COLL 150 Catalog Language Proposals**

EPC agrees that Sharon Zuber and Jack Martin will discuss and make preliminary recommendations to EPC on proposals for departmental COLL 150 catalog language, so that the whole of EPC is not burdened by that task.

#### **5. COLL 100 proposals**

Three COLL 100 proposals were submitted using an earlier form which only requested details about the communications component of those courses:

- “Gender” - 25 students - approved
- “PHIL 201 Freedom” - 35 students - approved
- “DANC 460(/AFST?) - Movement as Communication” - 25 students - approved

Five COLL 100 proposals were submitted using the current form:

- “LAS 100-01, Big Ideas in Latin American Studies: Hearing and Sound in Latin America and the Caribbean” - 20 students - approved
- “KINE 100 - Eating: Nutrition, Digestion, and Appetite” - 24 students - approved
- “Thinking” - COLL 100 (no departmental prefix) - 25 students - approved
- “Diaspora and Biculturalism: Arabs in America/America in Arabs” - 15 students - approved
- One COLL 100 proposal was returned for clarification.

#### **6. Discussion of FAC’s suggestions regarding how to present curriculum-related motions**

J. Gilmour reported recommendations by the Faculty Affairs Committee:

EPC should distinguish between what is policy and what is not. Policy needs to be approved by the faculty, not the curriculum guidelines on the whole. Heather Macdonald (not present) should weigh in - impression is that she wants the guidelines voted on by the faculty as whole. J. Eisele (member of FAC) commented to the EPC chairs that EPC will have the opportunity to tweak the language in the guidelines after the policy-related motions have passed.

#### **7. Updating the Deans**

J. Martin will share with FAC and the Dean how many proposals have been submitted, number of approvals so far, and other relevant statistics.