

## Educational Policy Committee Minutes, October 7, 2015 **DRAFT**

3:30 - 5:00 pm Colony Room (Sadler Center)

Present: Bill Hutton (Chair), Sallie Marchello, Cory Springer, Monica Potkay, Jack Martin, Hiroshi Kitamura, Jeremy Stoddard, Weizhen Mao, Peter Vishton, Diane Shakes, Jennifer Taylor, Jack Zhang, Lu Ann Homza, Ryan Corcoran, Susan Grover, Denise Ridley-Johnston

Scribe: Jennifer Taylor

1. The meeting started at 3:30 and the minutes of September 30, 2015 were approved.
2. Post-mortem on Tuesday's FAS meeting: the EPC motion to implement the CLA plan for on-campus COLL 300s was approved by the faculty of Arts and Sciences. While there was some support at the faculty meeting for a suggested amendment that would have made select courses not involved in the semester theme eligible for COLL 300, the idea prevailed that we need to foster the idea of community in the on-campus COLL 300 experience. There was no time during the FAS meeting to address two issues we had hoped to talk about, the Active Learning and the COLL 150s in languages other than English.

Some discussion followed about both the Active Learning designation and the language question with the COLL 150s. There is some urgency because pre-registration begins November 2. Faculty will not be able to vote on the COLL 150 language issue until November at the earliest, but the registrar suggested that the COLL 150 designation can be added to classes after registration if the faculty votes to allow languages other than English. As for the Active Learning designation, EPC has already approved all science labs as such for the time being, and until we vote to change the Active Learning description or to get rid of it altogether, we have to make ad hoc decisions for classes that have sent us applications.

In light of this discussion, EPC approved an application for ECON 307 for the Active Learning designation for next semester. For this and any subsequent ACTV approvals, applicants will be informed that the approval of the designation beyond Spring '16 will be contingent on further faculty decisions on the matter.

3. Assessment of COLL 100/COLL 200: Susan Grover and Denise Ridley-Johnston explained the close working relationship among the offices of Institutional Accreditation and Effectiveness (IAE), the office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (VPFA) and the EPC. In addition to ongoing compliance and accreditation work, every time there is an institutional change such as the new COLL curriculum, the college has to submit assessment and other documents to the State Council for Higher Learning in Virginia

(SCEV) and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Denise, Lu Ann, Susan and others met during the summer to start the process of creating an assessment process for our COLL 100 and 200 courses. Denise has been preparing rubrics in consultation with the EPC, the CLA and with faculty who are teaching the 100 and 200 courses. Denise has reached out to all faculty teaching 100 and 200 courses as well to discuss the rubrics and the portfolios they will be creating for each course as part of the assessment process. Denise is looking into ways to provide examples of portfolios for all faculty.

The COLL 300 and 400 pilots will be assessed as well in the near future. Susan and Denise both stressed how important it is for EPC and the Fellows to work closely with their offices as we create assessment tools for all of the COLL courses.

4. Non-canonical COLL 200's: ECON 101 has now asked to have all sections be COLL 200, but there are still multi-sectioned courses on campus that pose a problem if one or more sections are taught by adjuncts or graduate students (the faculty voted for the COLL curriculum with the expectation that, to the extent possible, the COLL courses will be taught by full-time, continuing faculty who are committed to our community). EPC grappled at some length with the logistical problems involved in having one section designated as a COLL while other sections of the same course might not be. Classical Studies, too, faces many challenges due to multi-sectioned courses. In the end, we decided that EPC will remind chairs that courses with a COLL designation should be taught by full-time, continuing faculty.

EPC then voted to approve a proposal to pilot a scheme for Spring '16 whereby students who enroll in CHEM 414 along with a special 1-credit lab session will earn COLL 200 credit (assuming they pass both courses).

5. The following applications were approved (in addition to the two mentioned above):

MSCI 335 approved for New Course and COLL 300.

GRMN 204 approved for ALV.

GRMN 411 (Topics) approved for ALV

GRMN 412 (Teaching Practicum) approved for ACTV

The committee adjourned at 5:05 PM.