



Educational Policies Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, 26 January 2015

Ex-Officio Members present (or represented): Provost Todd A. Diacon; Faculty Senate Chair Donna (Lee) L. Fox-Cardamone; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno, James L. Blank, James K. Bracken, John R. Crawford, AnnMarie LeBlanc, Donald F. Palmer, Eboni J. Pringle, Robert G. Sines, Douglas L. Steidl, Mary Ann P. Stephens; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Associate Deans Joanne M. Arhar, Janis H. Crowther, Cathy L. Du Bois (representing Deborah F. Spake), John (Jack) R. Graham, Catherine E. Hackney, LuEtt J. Hanson, I. Richmond Nettey, Cynthia R. Stillings, William T. Willoughby; Assistant Dean Elizabeth A. Sinclair (representing Deborah F. Spake); Director Robert A. Walker; Senior Academic Program Director Tracey M. Motter (representing Barbara A. Broome)

Ex-officio Members not present (or represented): Dean Wanda E. Thomas; Assistant Dean Thomas E. Klingler

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present: Professors Thomas Janson, Kathryn A. Kerns, Roberto M. Uribe-Rendon, Donald L. White; Associate Professors Christopher A. Was, Linda L. Williams

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present: Professors Richard Feinberg, Fred T. Smith; Associate Professor William C. Ward III; Assistant Professor Terrence L. Uber

Council Representatives present (or represented): Professors Michael W. Chunn, Ann F. Jacobson, David H. Kaplan; Associate Professors Thomas W. Brewer, Robert E. Cimera, Michael Ensley, John A. Marino, Jayaram (Jay) Muthuswamy, Athena Salaba, Jonathan F. Swoboda; Assistant Professors Tina D. Bhargava, John C. Duncan, Mary A. Mooney, David (Blake) Stringer; Lecturer Timothy A. Roberts (representing Danielle S. Coombs)

Council Representatives not present (or represented): Associate Professors Pamela K. Evans, Eric D. Johnson, Denice Sheehan; Assistant Professors Jonathan P. Fleming, Debra S. Shelestak, Belinda S. Zimmerman

Observers present: Graduate Student Senate Vice Executive Chair Fritz W. Yarrison

Observers not present: Undergraduate Student Government Academic Affairs Director Michelle A. Crisler

Consultants and Guests present: Susan M. Augustine, Jane A. Cox, Keiran J. Dunne, Anna L. Gosky, Mary Ann Haley, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Alyssa S. Kyff, Laura G. Leff, Mark L. Lewis, Yza Y. Melvin, Jennifer N. McDonough, Stephen A. Mitchell, Alexander W. Moore, O. Felix Offodile, Katherine (Katie) J. Smith, Kathleen J. Spicer, Linnea A. Stafford, Melody J. Tankersley, Therese E. Tillett, Andrew M. Tonge, Jonathan B. VanGeest, Sean L. Veney, Whitney E. Wenger, Hiroshi Yokoyama, Kathy M. Zarges

Provost Todd A. Diacon called the meeting to order at 3:23 p.m., on Monday, 26 January 2015, in the Governance Chambers of the Kent Student Center. He introduced Jennifer N. McDonough, associate vice president for academic operations and administration, to EPC members and welcomed her to Kent State and to the meeting.

Joint EPC Action Item 1: Approval of minutes of 17 November 2014.

Dean Donald F. Palmer moved for approval of the minutes, which was seconded by Associate Dean William T. Willoughby. The motion passed unanimously.

Joint EPC Discussion Item 1: 3342-3-02 University Policy on Instructors in Courses Carrying Academic Credit.

Associate Provost Melody J. Tankersley thanked EPC members for responding to her request for votes via e-mail on 22 December 2014 regarding the hiring of a foreign citizen to teach a distance education course while continuing to reside in the home country.

She explained that the University Policy on Instructors in Courses Carrying Academic Credit (3342-3-02) requires that instructors of record for all coursework carrying academic credit must have an official university appointment. Kent State does not have the administrative capability to hire foreign citizens as employees in these international locations and, therefore, the university must enter into independent contractor arrangements with them. Policy requires that when the university hires independent contractors as instructors, the unit must ask for approval of the Educational Policies Council and the provost as an exception for this hire.

The School of Digital Sciences sought to hire an independent contractor for spring 2015, and via e-mail, a clear majority of votes were approvals, and the independent contractor was hired.

Associate Counsel Michael R. Pfahl provided an overview of the legal issues that complicate the hiring of foreign citizens to serve as instructors of record for Kent State University courses. Associate Provost Tankersley added that EPC members were not making a personnel decision regarding a specific individual, but rather voting for or against the university entering into an independent contractor agreement with a foreign citizen.

In response to a question raised by an EPC member, Provost Diacon explained that this policy pertains only to hiring individuals who are living in another country at the time they are teaching a Kent State course. After more discussion about the policy—including a clarification that the issues related to the policy do not affect faculty appointments or hiring at Kent State's Florence, Italy, location—Provost Diacon and Associate Provost Tankersley thanked EPC members for their involvement in the discussion.

Graduate EPC Action Item 1: Establishment of Master of Geographic Information Science [MGIS] degree, to be offered 100 percent online only. The Geographic Information Science [GIS] major comprises three concentrations: CyberGIS [GISC], Environmental Geographic Information Science [GISE], Geographic Information Science and Health [GISH]. Included in proposal is establishment of 10 courses and revision to three courses. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 32.

This item was withdrawn with no discussion.

Graduate EPC Action Item 2: Establishment of Geographic Information Science [C611] post-baccalaureate certificate, to be offered 100 percent online only. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 17.

This item was withdrawn with no discussion.

Graduate EPC Action Item 3: Inactivation of Financial Engineering [FEM] major within the Master of Science [MS] degree, jointly offered by the Department of Finance and the Department of Mathematical Sciences. Admission to this program has been suspended since fall 2012.

Associate Dean Cathy L. Du Bois presented the item. Admission to the jointly offered program was suspended in 2012. All students admitted to the major prior to 2012 have graduated or otherwise left the program. When admission to the program was suspended, a non-tenure track faculty member was dismissed; there are no additional faculty ramifications.

Associate Dean Janis H. Crowther moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Associate Professor Christopher A. Was. With no questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

Graduate EPC Action Item 4: Establishment of Ohio Superintendent's Licensure [C850] post-master's certificate to be offered 100 percent online only. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 18.

Associate Dean Catherine E. Hackney presented the item. Students currently complete a collection of courses in order to obtain licensure as a superintendent in the state of Ohio, and this proposal would formalize this program as a certificate to allow the college to better track these students and market more effectively the program as an option offered 100 percent online.

Associate Dean Hackney made a motion to approve item. Associate Dean Joanne M. Arhar seconded the motion, and members passed it unanimously with no questions or discussion.

Graduate EPC Action Item 5: Revision of major name for the Counseling and Human Development Services [CHDS] major within the Doctor of Philosophy [PHD] degree. The name changes to Counselor Education and Supervision [CES]. Included in the proposal are revision to course requirements (lesser action item) that adds CES 88294 (formerly CHDS 88294) as required, and increases the internship experience, from 3 to 6 credits. Minimum total credit hours to program completion increase, from 81 to 87.

Associate Professor Jane A. Cox explained that the proposal to change the name of the doctoral major will align the program with the terminology used in the field and for accreditation of counselor education and supervision programs nationwide.

A motion for approval was made by Professor Michael W. Chunn and seconded by Associate Dean Willoughby. The item was passed unanimously with no questions or discussion.

Graduate EPC Action Item 6: Establishment of Advanced Pedagogy in Physical Education and Sport [APPES] major within the Master of Education [MED] degree. The program will be offered 100 percent online only through collaboration with the University of Wollongong in New South Wales, Australia. Students will apply and be admitted to one university and complete half the coursework (6 courses) at each university. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 36.

Professor Stephen A. Mitchell stated that the University of Wollongong is a strong institution with which to partner, and that he is confident there will be students who are interested in completing this master's degree program in order to obtain credentials to advance in their careers. He clarified

that the proposed major does not lead to educator licensure, nor will an educator license be required for admission to the program.

Associate Dean Hackney moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Associate Dean Cynthia R. Stillings. With no questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

With no further questions, discussion or announcements for the graduate council, Provost Todd A. Diacon asked for a motion to conclude the graduate portion of the joint meeting. Associate Professor Thomas W. Brewer moved to conclude the graduate portion of the joint meeting, which was seconded by Professor Kathryn A. Kerns. With no additional questions or discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 1: Revision of Not Permitted to Continue policy to clarify the process, procedures and communication for undergraduate students who have been deemed ineligible by their academic unit to continue in their declared degree program. Included in proposal is establishment of Degree Pathway Alternatives [DPA] non-degree undergraduate [NDUG] program.

Dean Eboni J. Pringle introduced the item on behalf of the EPC Ad Hoc Committee for Academic Policies. In February 2013, EPC approved the establishment of a university policy for students who are not permitted to continue in their academic programs. The Not Permitted to Continue policy is in place to support the success of students who have not been able to earn or maintain the minimum cumulative or major GPA required for their academic program, but have earned the minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA required to be considered “in good standing” at the university and are not subject to dismissal from the institution.

After EPC approved the policy’s establishment, the EPC Ad Hoc Committee revisited the policy to develop a process, procedures and communication for undergraduate students who have been deemed ineligible by their academic unit to continue in their declared degree program. The EPC Ad Hoc Committee consulted with academic units and identified three general areas of implementation: (1) student notification of policy; (2) processing and review of affected students; and (3) process for students who are deemed not permitted to continue.

Students not permitted to continue in their current major will be advised to take action and voluntarily move to another major. If they do not take action voluntarily, they will be moved administratively to a new non-degree program called Degree Pathway Alternatives. Dean Pringle added that the goal of the policy, however, is to provide multiple touch points, forcing conversations with students about academic progress, so that the Degree Pathway Alternatives non-degree program is truly a last resort.

Dean Pringle moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean Palmer.

After much discussion, a friendly amendment was accepted to remove the following sentence from the proposed policy language (page 4, paragraph 3) regarding students who have been moved to the Degree Pathway Alternatives program: “They will be encouraged to seek out private loans to fund college expenses until they enroll in a degree- or certificate-granting program.”

An EPC member asked if Kent State currently employs enough advisors to meet the needs of students affected by the Not Permitted to Continue policy. Dean Pringle responded that additional advisors were hired by units to meet the demands of required advising, and that units will be able to manage this new policy without additional staff.

With no additional questions or discussion, EPC members passed the motion unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 2: Report from the Diversity Subcommittee of the University Requirements Curriculum Committee.

Dean Palmer explained that the proposal is the result of the University Requirements Curriculum Committee (URCC) five-year review of the university diversity requirement. The URCC requests a charge from EPC to carry out the following recommendations from the 13 October 2014 Diversity Subcommittee Report to URCC:

- (1) Investigate the distinction between domestic and global diversity;
- (2) Encourage inclusion of curriculum/activities that would promote interaction with difference and actions to negotiate/overcome difference

Beyond the scope of the study, but relevant to consider in a review of the diversity requirement are the following recommendations:

- (3) Review the current diversity criteria for relevance in the 21st century;
- (4) Write learning outcomes rather than criteria so that it would be possible to assess student growth.

The URCC proposes that the report is presented to college curriculum committees for their review and approval. Each college curriculum committee will then submit its recommendation to EPC regarding the approval of the four recommendations in the Diversity Committee Report, and the recommendation that URCC carry out the four recommendations.

An EPC member asked if the URCC collaborated with the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion when creating the proposed recommendations; Dean Palmer responded that the division was not involved, but that it would be a beneficial unit to consult moving forward.

He then made a motion for EPC to approve charging the URCC to carry out the following recommendations as made in the Diversity Subcommittee Report. The motion was seconded by Associate Dean Arhar.

An EPC member asked if the URCC considered eliminating the diversity requirement. She voiced her opinion that there has been a proliferation of diversity-related courses at the university. Dean Palmer indicated that recommendation (3) addresses the EPC member's question. Current diversity criteria will be reviewed for relevance in light of the progress made integrating diversity education into the curriculum.

With no additional questions or discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 3: Designation of Experiential Learning Requirement status for all study abroad and study away activities (course or non-course)—including NSE 10095 (National Student Exchange) and OIA 10095 (Study Abroad)—that are sanctioned by the university.

Anna L. Gosky, interim director of the Office of Experiential Education, presented the item, which would extend an unobstructed pathway to meet the Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR) for students who participate in study abroad and study away. When the ELR was first introduced, study abroad and study away were discussed as activities that should be designated under the umbrella of experiential learning. Interim Director Gosky stated that students who participate in study abroad and study away are often experiencing different cultures and learning about different traditions, which meets the guidelines of experiential learning.

Dean Palmer moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Assistant Professor Tina D. Bhargava. Provost Diacon added that this proposal is an attempt to reduce the bureaucracy students face when attempting to seek ELR status for their study abroad and study away experiences. With no additional questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 4: Designation of Kent Core status to the following course in the additional category: MCLS 20000 Global Literacy and Cultural Awareness (3); course number will be revised to MCLS 20001.

Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley stated that the proposal to designate Kent Core status in the additional category to the course is supported by the Office of Global Education and is contingent on the course being approved for inclusion in the state-wide Ohio Transfer Module as an interdisciplinary course (humanities and social sciences).

Dean James L. Blank moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Associate Dean Arhar.

An EPC member requested that the item be tabled until a determination is made as to whether the course is approved for the Ohio Transfer Module. Another EPC member voiced his opinion that faculty should be more critical of courses that are proposed to be designated with Kent Core status.

After a general discussion about the Kent Core, Provost Diacon asked the College of Arts and Sciences to clarify which courses proposed to be given Kent Core designation are new courses, and which courses are existing courses that are being revised due to state, programmatic or other influences. Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley provided a brief review of Undergraduate EPC Action Items 4, 5, 6, 7, and differentiated between the new courses and existing courses. Provost Diacon summarized that MCLS 20000 would effectively be an addition to the Kent Core, as opposed to courses listed Undergraduate EPC Action Items 5, 6 and 7 that are based on existing Kent Core courses.

Associate Professor Linda L. Williams moved to table the item until the course has been reviewed for inclusion in the Ohio Transfer Module, so that the group is able to make a more informed decision. Her motion was seconded by Faculty Senate Chair Donna (Lee) L. Fox-Cardamone. Provost Diacon said that the item would return to EPC for a vote after review for inclusion in the Ohio Transfer Module.

An EPC member asked if all Kent Core courses must be approved for inclusion in the Ohio Transfer Module. Therese Tillet, director of curriculum services, responded in the negative, but added that the Ohio Board of Regents has expressed concerns to her about the number of courses in the Kent Core that are not part of the Ohio Transfer Module. [Note: of the 124 courses with Kent Cores status, 25 (20 percent) presently are not in the Ohio Transfer Module.]

An EPC member asked if tabling the item will remove any chance for the course to be included in the Kent Core for fall 2015, even if approved for inclusion in the Ohio Transfer Module at a later date. Director Tillet responded that the next submission for Ohio Transfer Module courses is in March, and she may not hear about the status of submissions until April or May. However, if the course was successfully approved at every level, the Office of Curriculum Services can add the Kent Core attribute to the course at any time prior to final grades being entered and the course rolled to academic history.

With no additional questions or discussion, EPC members unanimously voted to table the item.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 5: Designation of Kent Core status to the following three new courses in the basic sciences category: BSCI 21010 Anatomy and Physiology I (4); BSCI 21020 Anatomy and Physiology II (4); and CHEM 10055 Molecules of Life (3).

Associate Dean Haley informed members that the proposed courses were developed at the request of the College of Nursing, which is in the process of revising its program's curriculum. She explained most other nursing programs require anatomy and physiology courses, and the college's adoption of these new BSCI courses will match the convention of nursing programs nationwide and streamline the credit transfer process for students.

Provost Diacon asked for clarification from Associate Dean Haley that these courses were the content equivalents of current Kent Core courses, tweaked slightly to meet the needs of students enrolled in the College of Nursing.

Senior Academic Program Director Tracey M. Motter, representing Dean Barbara A. Broome, moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean Blank. Senior Academic Program Director Motter stated that these course revisions in the College of Nursing were proposed in order to ensure students are better prepared for advanced content, and to bring requirements for the College of Nursing in line with other nursing programs throughout the country.

Provost Diacon asked again for clarification that these courses are the functional equivalents of Kent Core courses that are already in existence. Senior Academic Program Director Motter responded that the courses are equivalent.

With no additional questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 6: Designation of temporary Kent Core status to AS 10095 Special Topics: Molecules of Life (3) in the basic sciences category. The course is the pilot version of CHEM 10055, which will be offered fall 2015 (see item 5 above).

Senior Academic Program Director Tracey M. Motter said that designation of temporary Kent Core status to AS 10095 Special Topics: Molecules of Life will ensure that College of Nursing students currently enrolled in the course will be able to graduate without having to take an extra Kent Core course. She then seconded Dean Palmer's motion for approval of the item. Members passed the item with no questions or discussion.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 7: Designation of Kent Core status to the following four new courses in the mathematics and critical reasoning category: MATH 10771 Basic Mathematical Concepts I Plus (5); MATH 10772 Modeling Algebra Plus (5); MATH 10774 Algebra for Calculus Stretch II (3); and MATH 10775 Algebra for Calculus Plus (4).

Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley explained that the four proposed courses will serve as alternative pathways to existing Kent Core mathematics courses for students who earn a minimum 22 ACT mathematics sub score, but do not achieve the minimum score on the ALEKS math placement assessment required to move forward into the course(s) of their choice. The Ohio Board of Regents established uniform statewide standards and college testing thresholds for remediation-free status in mathematics for undergraduate students who earn a minimum 22 ACT mathematics sub score.

Acknowledging that a 22 ACT mathematics sub score does not necessarily mean a student is prepared for college-level mathematics courses, the Department of Mathematical Sciences created new courses that build background material into college-level courses, and these new courses serve as the alternative pathways for students who demonstrate that they need additional preparation during the math placement process. Students who successfully complete the new courses will do so with the same content knowledge as their counterparts who successfully complete the equivalent conventional courses.

Professor Andrew M. Tonge added that these courses were successfully piloted in fall 2014. The rate of A, B and C grades for students enrolled in MATH 20095 Special Topics: Modeling Algebra Plus was 80 percent, which was higher than the rate of A, B and C grades for the equivalent conventional course, MATH 11009 Modeling Algebra.

Provost Diacon asked for clarification that the proposal is requesting these four new courses to be designated as courses that can be used to fulfill the Kent Core mathematics requirement, as they are the functional equivalents of existing Kent Core mathematics courses. Professor Tonge stated that the learning outcomes for the new courses are the same as the learning outcomes for the equivalent conventional courses; students are given the same final exams.

Dean Palmer moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean Blank. With no additional questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 8: Authorization of dean of Undergraduate Studies to approve non-course Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR) applications for all undergraduate students; and authorization of any full-time faculty member to approve and supervise non-course ELR applications. The full-time faculty member does not need to have an appointment in the student's major department.

Interim Director Gosky introduced the item, which was designed to reduce the obstacles students encounter when seeking approval for non-course Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR) experiences. Currently, students are required to obtain signatures from a faculty member, the faculty member's department chair and the dean of the faculty member's college to evidence approval for an experience to meet the ELR. This proposal seeks to introduce a new process for approval of these non-course experiences. Students would be able to meet with any full-time faculty member to approve a non-course ELR application; the dean of Undergraduate Studies would also be authorized to approve non-course ELR applications for all undergraduate students.

Dean Palmer motion for approval of the item was seconded by Dean Eboni J. Pringle.

Provost Diacon stated that this proposal is another attempt to reduce the bureaucracy that students encounter when seeking approval for their experiences. Dean Pringle added that faculty members often voiced that they did not have the expertise they felt was necessary in order to authorize certain non-course experiences, such as substantial campus leadership roles, as meeting the ELR. Associate Provost Tankersley explained that this proposal would establish the Office of Experiential Education within the Division of Undergraduate Studies as the support center for non-course ELR experiences, which would reduce the challenges that students face when seeking faculty authorization for experiences that are not affiliated with an academic course.

With no additional questions or discussion, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 9: Establishment of Aerospace Engineering [AERS] major within the Bachelor of Science [BS] degree to be offered at the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 128.

Interim Dean Robert G. Sines presented the item and stated that the proposed program would be the first Aerospace Engineering major to be offered at a state-supported institution in Northeast Ohio. He then moved the item for approval, seconded by Assistant Professor David (Blake) Stringer.

An EPC member asked if the college had the faculty resources necessary to support the proposed major. Interim Dean Sines responded that the college has the faculty resources necessary, but that they are also undergoing a search for one additional faculty member.

EPC members passed the item unanimously with no additional questions or discussion.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 10: Establishment of Aviation Management [AVMN] minor to be offered at the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 15.

Interim Dean Sines stated that two concentrations of the Aeronautics [AERN] major within the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology require physical examinations, and the proposed minor would give students enrolled in those concentrations an opportunity to explore an additional area in the event that they lose their physical certifications.

Interim Dean Sines moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Assistant Professor David (Blake) Stringer. With no questions or discussion, the item was passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 11: Establishment of Safety, Quality and Lean in Manufacturing [SQL] minor to be offered at the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 18.

Interim Dean Sines introduced the item. With no questions or discussion, the item was passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 12: Establishment of History and Philosophy of Science [HPS] minor to be offered at the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 18.

David W. Odell-Scott, associate dean and director of the Center for Comparative and Integrative Programs, stated that the multidisciplinary minor will include new and existing courses taught by faculty members from the departments of History and Philosophy.

Dean Blank moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Assistant Professor Bhargava. The item was passed unanimously with no questions or discussion.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 13: Establishment of World Literature and Cultures [WLC] minor to be offered at the Kent and Stark campuses. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 18.

Associate Dean Odell-Scott said the proposed multidisciplinary minor was developed using existing coursework and faculty expertise. Dean Blank's motion for item approval was seconded by Assistant Professor Tina D. Bhargava and passed unanimously by members with no questions or discussion.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 14: Establishment of Italian Studies [ITST] minor to be offered at the Kent Campus. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 18.

Dean Blank explained that the minor was designed to augment students' experiences at Kent State's Florence, Italy, location, although it also will be fully available to students at the Kent Campus who do not study abroad. He then moved the item for approval, which was seconded by Professor David H. Kaplan and passed unanimously with no questions or discussion.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 15: Establishment of General Business [GBUS] major within the Bachelor of Business Administration [BBA] degree to be offered on-ground at the Kent Campus. They last two years of the program may be taken 100 percent online, in addition to on-ground, for completer students. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 120.

Assistant Dean Elizabeth A. Sinclair explained the dual rationales for the proposed major: (1) the needs of students who are undecided within the College of Business Administration and (2) the needs of students who have left Kent State without earning a degree. The college currently offers a non-degree Business Undeclared program, which is an option for students who enter the college unsure of the discipline in which they'd like to specialize. The proposed major would allow students who are undecided or have not yet identified a focus within the college explore areas of specialization within a degree-granting program. Additionally, students who do not eventually choose select a specific discipline in which to focus their studies will be able to graduate with the General Business major.

The proposed major will utilize existing faculty appointments and existing courses to create an opportunity for the college to offer a flexible major that also enables students to return and earn a degree after completing the required coursework, regardless of the business discipline in which they began their studies. Students will be able to complete the last two years of the program 100 percent online, or on-ground. She added that the proposed major would meet the same rigorous accreditation standards as the other majors in the college.

Assistant Dean Sinclair moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Assistant Professor Bhargava. With no questions or concerns, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 16: Revision of academic structure, from Division of Undergraduate Studies to University College.

Dean Eboni J. Pringle explained that when the Division of Undergraduate Studies was formed in 1994, there was little emphasis on supporting undecided students, and more focus on serving students enrolled in other units in various ways. In recent years, the university has placed a higher priority on recruitment, retention and graduation, and the Division of Undergraduate Studies has responded by more fully addressing the needs to exploratory students with an established curriculum and process for students to successfully transition into a major of their choice.

Dean Pringle said that current literature indicates undecided and exploratory students often feel as though they are considered "second-class citizens" by their institutions, and this proposal seeks to communicate the normality of the process this population experiences on their way to becoming degree-seeking students. Changing the name of the unit will serve to communicate to students the value of their choice to explore numerous degree options, and also that they will receive the same amount and level of academic support as degree-seeking students.

Dean Pringle moved to approve the item, which was seconded by Dean AnnMarie LeBlanc.

An EPC member asked about the choice of the name "University College." Dean Pringle responded that the name "University College" is used by other institutions and will be recognizable to students. She also clarified that the structure of the unit will not change, and that the unit will not offer academic majors. The cost of changing the unit name is minimal and can be absorbed within the current operating budget.

An EPC member asked about having one college that does not offer majors. Dean Pringle responded that the Honors College also does not offer majors. Another EPC member asked if other colleges in the state are adopting this nomenclature. Dean Pringle responded that two Ohio institutions, Ohio University and Wright State University, also use the name "University College".

With no additional questions or concerns, the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 17: Formalization of Cooperative Education Program, which was piloted fall 2014 through the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology.

Interim director Gosky introduced the item, which would offer all Kent State undergraduate students the opportunity to augment their academic study with an approved semester of full-time, program-related employment, while still maintaining full-time student status. Effective fall 2015, it will transition to the Division of Undergraduate Studies, which will work in conjunction with participating students' academic colleges to coordinate cooperative education experiences.

Dean Pringle moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean LeBlanc. Associate Provost Tankersley explained to members that while field-based and internship experiences are built into program curricula as required courses for graduation, cooperative education experiences are partnerships between students and industry that allow students to explore their chosen fields through full-time employment on- or off-campus with a particular company. Students participating in the program will register for COOP 20092 Cooperative Education, which carries no academic credit or grade; students will earn either the mark "Complete" or the mark "Not Complete". Associate Provost Tankersley highlighted that while many other universities utilize similar programs to support students' cooperative experiences, Kent State's decision to offer the Cooperative Education Program at the university level (not housed within specific units) extends the opportunity for all students, not just those enrolled in programs that typically require or recommend cooperative education experiences.

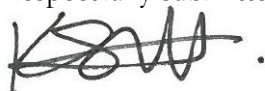
An EPC member asked for clarification about minimum and maximum time frames for the proposed program. Associate Provost Tankersley responded that the minimum amount of time a student can participate in the Cooperative Education Program is one semester, but that extensions are permitted. The EPC member also stated that students enrolled in highly-sequenced majors may experience difficulty participating in the proposed program and returning to where they left off in their studies. Associate Provost Tankersley responded that students in some highly-sequenced majors, like teacher education, already have a great deal of intensive, field-based experiences built into their program requirements; it is expected that students who do not have these types of experiences built into their major will be those most likely to take advantage of the proposed program.

Additionally, Provost Todd A. Diacon and Associate Provost Tankersley clarified that students who take advantage of the proposed program may extend their total time to graduation, but that students who participate in cooperative education experiences are often hired by the company providing the experience or a similar company directly after graduation. Provost Diacon noted that this phenomenon might not occur without the connections made during these types of opportunities.

Interim Dean Sines added that the pilot program has been very successful in the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology. With no additional questions or concerns, EPC members passed the item unanimously.

Professor Donald L. White moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Faculty Senate Chair Fox-Cardamone. The meeting ended at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie J. Smith
Academic Program Coordinator, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost