



Educational Policies Council  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Monday, 19 October 2015

**Ex-Officio Members present (or represented):** Senior Vice President and Provost Todd A. Diacon; Faculty Senate Chair Linda L. Williams; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno, James L. Blank, James K. Bracken, Barbara A. Broome, John R. Crawford, Amy L. Reynolds, Robert G. Sines, Deborah F. Spake, Douglas L. Steidl (also representing William T. Willoughby), Susan J. Stocker, Melody J. Tankersley, Wendy A. Umberger; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Associate Deans Alicia R. Crowe (representing Mark A. Kretovics), Janis H. Crowther, LuEtt J. Hanson, Cynthia R. Stillings; Director Robert A. Walker; Curriculum Coordinator Susan M. Augustine (representing Catherine E. Hackney)

**Ex-officio Members not present (or represented):** Deans Donald F. Palmer, Eboni J. Pringle; Associate Deans Robert D. Hisrich, I. Richmond Nettey; Assistant Dean Thomas E. Klingler

**Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present (or represented):** Professor Donald L. White; Associate Professor Willie H. Oglesby III; Assistant Professor Amy Fritsche,

**Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present (or represented):** Professors Jay M. Jahangiri, Kathryn A. Kearns, Robin L. Selinger; Associate Professors Soumitra Basu, Zhiqiang M. Wang; Assistant Professors James E. Seelye, Terrence L. Uber,

**Council Representatives present (or represented):** Professors Michael W. Chunn, Nichole L. Egbert-Scheibelhoffer; Associate Professors Thomas W. Brewer (also representing Sheryl L. Chatfield), Jessie Carduner, Robert E. Cimera, Stacy R. Rose, Athena Salaba; Assistant Professors Lindsay C. Baran, Belinda S. Zimmerman

**Council Representatives not present (or represented):** Associate Professors Pamela K. Evans, Jayaram (Jay) Muthuswamy, Jonathan F. Swoboda; Assistant Professors John C. Duncan, Jonathan P. Fleming, Mary A. Mooney, Debra S. Shelestak, Pamela L. Stephenson, David (Blake) B. Stringer

**Observers present:** Vice Executive Chair Andrea Meluch; Director of Academic Affairs James Flanagan

**Observers not present:** none

**Consultants and Guests present:** Mary Ann Haley, Lynette Johnson, Jaime D. Kennedy, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Yza Y. Melvin, Stephen G. Nameth, Elizabeth A. Sinclair, Katherine (Katie) J. Smith, Linnea A. Stafford, Therese E. Tillet

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Provost Todd A. Diacon called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m., on Monday, 19 October 2015, in the Governance Chambers of the Kent Student Center.

**Joint EPC Action Item 1: Approval of minutes of 18 May 2015.**

No changes, corrections or clarifications were requested. Provost Diacon called for a vote, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Graduate EPC Information Item 1: Temporary suspension of admission for the Health Policy and Management [HPM] concentration in the Public Health [PH] major within the Master of Public Health [MPH] degree on the Trumbull Campus only. The concentration will be suspended on the Trumbull Campus for maximum three years, at which time the program will be reevaluated and a decision made to either reopen admission or to inactivate the program at that campus.**

Faculty Senate Chair Linda L. Williams stated her opinion that the proposal for the item was uninformative and asked for additional information. Associate Professor Willie H. Oglesby III from the College of Public Health shared that the proposal for temporary suspension of admission is due to low enrollment at the Trumbull campus. He clarified that the current cohort of students enrolled in the program will be able to complete required coursework, and that the college plans to revisit the decision to suspend admissions following the graduation of the present cohort in summer 2016. Admissions for the program may reopen if interest and need for the program is evident at the Trumbull campus.

**Undergraduate EPC Action Item I: Revision of degree designation for the Photo-Illustration [PHOI] major within the Bachelor of Science [BS] degree. Degree changes to a Bachelor of Fine Arts [BFA]. In addition, a lesser action item, major requirements are revised to include five new courses (VCD 28007, VCD 38011, VCD 48001, VCD 48002 and VCD 48003) and four existing courses (VCD 28004, VCD 34004, VCD 37000 and VCD 48009) as required. Seven courses (VCD 20000, VCD 20003, VCD 20010, VCD 38008, VCD 43003, VCD 40025 and VCD 49199) and choice of FIN 26704, CRIM 26704, PHIL 21001 and VCD 34004 are removed from additional program requirements. General elective hours are also reduced. Minimum total credit hours to program completion decrease, from 126 to 120.**

Dean Amy L. Reynolds from the College of Communication and Information introduced and moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean Deborah F. Spake. Dean Reynolds summarized the proposal. She explained that the Photo-Illustration major moved from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication to the School of Visual Communication Design in 2004, and at that time the major fell under the Bachelor of Science designation. The purpose of the proposal is to change the degree to a Bachelor of Fine Arts, which is the standard degree awarded to students in the discipline of photographic arts. Program faculty believe that a change from a BS to a BFA degree will positively affect student recruitment and retention, as well as provide more accessibility to graduate school for students interested in pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree.

Dean Reynolds briefly reviewed the program curricular revisions. She highlighted the reduction in credit hours required for graduation, which better aligns the program with university degree completion initiatives.

An EPC member asked if there were any potential problems with revising 40000-level courses to be 20000-level courses. Associate Dean LuEtt J. Hanson explained that the major included enough upper-division courses to meet the university minimum, even with the proposed changes to course numbers.

Faculty Senate Chair Williams asked Dean Reynolds if a footnote could be added to the program requirements to strongly recommend students to take PHIL 21001, which was removed as required when the major was revised. She expressed her opinion that students benefit from the course, and stated that Department of Philosophy faculty members who serve on the Faculty Senate would also raise a concern about the removal of the course as required. In response, Dean Reynolds said that the college could talk with advisors about recommending the course to students.

With no further questions or discussion, members passed the item unanimously.

**Undergraduate EPC Action Item 2: Inactivation of Associate of Arts [AA] and Associate of Science [AS] degrees jointly administered by Kent State and Stark State College [KSST]. Enrollment in both joint degrees has been low since their establishments in spring 2006 and fall 1999, respectively; only 24 students have graduated, in total, in the past 15 years. The AA and AS degrees administered solely by Kent State will continue to be offered.**

Dean Susan J. Stocker introduced and moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean Douglas L. Steidl. Dean Stocker summarized the proposal. She explained that Stark State College was previously unable to offer the Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees. Now that Stark State is able to offer the AA and AS degrees, in addition to the Associate of Technical Studies degree, there is no longer a need for this agreement.

Members passed the item unanimously with no further questions or discussion.

With no further questions or requests for discussion on any of the other items on the agenda, Provost Diacon adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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