



Educational Policies Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, 22 August 2016

Ex-Officio Members present (or represented): Provost Todd A. Diacon; Faculty Senate Chair Deborah Smith; Deans, James K. Bracken, Barbara A. Broome, John R. Crawford-Spinelli, Mark A. Kretovics, Eboni J. Pringle, Robert G. Sines, Deborah F. Spake, Nathen Ritchey; Associate Deans, Mary Ann Haley (representing Dean James L. Blank)

Ex-officio Members not present (or represented): Deans, Sonia A. Alemagno, Kenneth J. Burhanna Donald F. Palmer, Amy L. Reynolds; Associate Deans, Danielle S. Coombs, Janis H. Crowther, Robert D. Hisrich, Mark S. Mistur Stephen A. Mitchell I. Richmond Nettey, Cynthia R. Stillings; Melody J. Tankersley Wendy A. Umberger. William T. Willoughby; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Assistant Dean Kenneth J. Burhanna; Director Robert A. Walker

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present (or represented): Professors Jay M. Jahangiri, Donald L. White; Assistant Professor James E. Seelye,

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present (or represented): Professors Susan J. Roxburgh, Robin R. Selinger; Associate Professors Soumitra Basu, Farid S. Fouad, Zhiqiang M. Wang; Assistant Professors Vinay K. Cheruvu, Amy Fritsche, Terrence L. Uber

Council Representatives present (or represented): Professors Thomas W. Brewer, Pamela K. Evans, Debra S. Shelestak, David (Blake) B. Stringer; Associate Professors, Andrew Wiley (representing Robert E. Cimera)

Council Representatives not present (or represented): Professors, Michael W. Chunn; Stacy R. Rose, Nichole L. Egbert-Scheibelhoffer; Associate Professor Jessie Carduner, Stacy R. Rose, Athena Salaba, Jonathan F. Swoboda, Jayaram (Jay) Muthuswamy; Assistant Professors Lindsay C. Baran, Sheryl L. Chatfield, John C. Duncan, Jonathan P. Fleming, Mary A. Mooney, Timothy L. Scarnecchia, Pamela L. Stephenson, Belinda S. Zimmerman

Observers present:

Observers not present: Undergraduate Student Government Director James Flanagan; Graduate Student Senate Information Services Chair Mark Rhodes

Consultants and Guests present: Susan M. Augustine, Joan Inderhees, David H. Kaplan, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Scott C. Sheridan, Elizabeth A. Sinclair, Kathleen J. Spicer, Linnea A. Stafford, Therese E. Tillett, Aimee J. Van Domelen, Catherine M. Zingrone

Provost Todd Diacon called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m., on Monday, 22 August 2016, in the Governance Chambers of the Kent Student Center.

Revision of the Transient Undergraduate Work at Another University policy to fold it into the Transfer of Undergraduate Credit policy. In addition, policy requirements and language regarding the transfer of coursework (for new and current students) are revised.

Dean Deborah F. Spake made a motion for approval, seconded by Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley. Assistant Dean Elizabeth A. Sinclair summarized the proposal on behalf of the Associate and Assistant Deans Committee. She explained the major revision to the transient section was the elimination of the 2.000 GPA requirement for current Kent State students to be eligible to take courses elsewhere and transfer them back. The rationale for the previous requirement was the misunderstanding among some students that they could bolster their Kent State GPA by transferring grades back (transfer course credit will count in students' overall credit hours for Kent State graduation, but transfer grades do not count in their Kent State GPA). However, the GPA requirement is unenforceable as it conflicts with the transfer policy that states Kent State will accept for transfer any college-level course with a passing grade.

Other changes included the creation of a new form to be completed by the student in consultation with and approval by an advisor, the use of the term "active student" to define an enrolled student and the removal of the term "transient," which is not commonly used or understood among students.

An EPC member inquired about the red-lined version in the materials, which seemed unclear and incomplete. An explanation was made that some information was not included, and it was then asked for it to be included before the proposal went to Faculty Senate.

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

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 2: Establishment of Environmental Studies [ENVS] major within the Bachelor of Arts [BA] degree. One course will be established (ENVS 42099) and two courses revised (GEOG 22070, 32091) for the new major. Minimum total credit hours to program completion are 120.

Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley moved for approval of the item, which was seconded by Dean John R. Crawford-Spinelli. Associate Dean Haley explained that faculty from the departments of Geography, Geology, Biology and Sociology worked on the curriculum for the proposed interdisciplinary major in Environmental Studies. Professor David H. Kaplan from the Department of Geography, which will administer the program, explained that the major will be, fundamentally, a social sciences program, with a grounding of natural science studies. He stated that environmental studies is a popular major at other universities, but Cleveland State University is the only other public institution to offer a similar program in Northeast Ohio.

An EPC member asked about difference between this program and environmental science. Professor Kaplan explained that environmental science focuses more on natural sciences.

Members did not have any additional questions or discussion. A vote was called, and the item was passed unanimously.

There were no requests or motions to discuss any of the lesser action items on the agenda. Provost Diacon adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Van Domelen
Academic Program Coordinator, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost