Minutes for the CEPP Meeting January 30, 2013

In attendance:  Michael Arnush (chair), Beau Breslin, Rochelle Calhoun, Hope Casto, Chris Kopec, Bill Lewis, Josh Ness, Peter von Allmen, Benjamin Bechand, '14 and Emily Kowal '13

I. Minutes from January 23 were approved.

II. Dean's Card Revision. CEPP agreed that at the February 1 faculty meeting it would pull from consideration the student ratings form that was introduced at the December faculty meeting, introduce the (slightly) amended form as a new motion, move to waive the requirement that a new motion lie over until the next meeting and (assuming that motion passes) ask for an immediate vote on the new motion.

III. Culture-Centered Inquiry. There was a brief discussion about courses that might fit within the proposed Considering Difference requirement that would allow science faculty to participate in the delivery of these courses (e.g., the science of mental illness).

IV. Consultation with Curriculum Committee. CEPP was informed by the Curriculum Committee that it had approved minors in Chinese and Japanese, and the elimination of an interdisciplinary major in MB/EC. CEPP was informed pursuant to an agreement that CC would consult with CEPP on certain curricular matters. A brief discussion followed about whether being informed was the equivalent of being consulted. CEPP agreed that the chair will consult Sylvia McDevitt, chair of CC, to clarify the distinction between “informing CEPP” and “consulting CEPP.”

V. Academic Affairs. Beau shared the Academic Affairs portion of a draft report on "Multicultural Organizational Development Planning" that was being prepared by Cabinet and clarified the section on CEPP’s work on the Culture-Centered Inquiry requirement

VI. All-College Requirements. The proposed study envisioned by CEPP includes a review of the QR, science competency/literacy and breadth portions of the All-College requirements. There was a discussion about whether sections of the curriculum such as Scribner Seminars should be included and whether the entire curriculum should be reviewed. The general view was that Scribner Seminars are relatively new and are a distinct part of the curriculum that are qualitatively different from other all-college requirements and are unlikely to be eliminated or fundamentally changed in the near term and hence should not be part of this review. Likewise, as consideration of the entire all-college curriculum is far too daunting to be undertaken in one step, CEPP has chosen to begin with a proposal for the CCI requirement, proceed to this more comprehensive review and leave the rest for future study. Also, since all requirements are interconnected and any review of even a limited part of the curriculum must consider how all parts dove-tail and connect with the rest, this study cannot and will not occur in a vacuum.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Kopec