CEPP Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2019

In Attendance: Peter von Allmen, Cerri Banks, Andrew Bozio, Dave DeConno, Riley Filister, Pat Hilleren, Steve Ives, Jina Mao, Noa Mills, Feryaz Ocakli, and Michael Orr.

Meeting began on 2:31 pm

1. Minutes approved after minor changes.
2. Dave DeConno led a discussion on the possibility of revising the academic calendar, with the specific aim of taking an entire week off for Thanksgiving.
   * DeConno suggested that the mandated number of contact hours would make this difficult, if not impossible. The study day counts toward contact hours.
   * To cut another day from the fall semester, we would need to start a week before—difficult given both the track season and the fact that many grade schools in the area do not begin until after Labor Day. Approximately 10% of students live off-campus, and Orr noted that starting a week early would also have financial implications (the running of D-Hall, the staffing of offices, etc.).
   * In light of these difficulties, the choice may be between maintaining the current system or extending the semester by one day and taking a week off at Thanksgiving. CEPP considered investigating the financial implications of starting a week early and then, if appropriate, surveying the faculty to determine who would be affected by starting a week early.
   * CEPP also considered the possibility of extending the start and end of classes to make up the missing contact hours. In the end, CEPP determined it was not to be.
3. Cerri Banks circulated a draft of the Conscientious Religious Observance Policy and described its contents. CEPP agreed to review the draft and discuss at next week’s meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Bozio