

## Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP)

### Annual Report for AY 2015/2016

#### Membership:

- 2016 Amy Frappier, Geosciences, tenured
- 2017 April Bernard, English, tenured, chair fall 2015
- 2017 Kelly Sheppard, Chemistry, untenured, chair spring 2016
- 2018 Erica Bastress-Dukehart, History, tenured
- 2018 Soyong Lee, Education Studies, untenured
- Beau Breslin, Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Gail Cummings-Danson, Interim Dean of Students, Vice President for Student Affairs
- 2015 Megan Schachter '17, SGA VP for Academic Affairs, student rep (fall only)
- 2016 Addison Bennett '16, student rep
- 2016 Emma Starr '16, SGA VP for Academic Affairs, student rep (spring only)

The committee met 27 times during the academic year, including two extended retreats. The CEPP working groups on aspects of the **new general education** curriculum met 4 times. Additionally, CEPP held 10 lunch meetings with faculty to discuss the curriculum. CEPP also met with Academic Council once and SGA Senate once to discuss the curriculum. The year began with an ambitious agenda, which included the following items:

#### **In process agenda items**

- General education curriculum reform

#### **Completed agenda items**

- Work on General Education Curricular Reform
  - Presented at Academic Summit and at the 04/29 Faculty Meeting
  - Updated and revised links to supporting assessment data
  - Solicited feedback on the *In the Major* requirements
  - Revised *Integrated Experiences* (FYE, Bridge Experience, and Senior Coda), *Foundational* (Close Reading & Writing, Applied Quantitative Reasoning, and Language Exploration) and *Modes of Inquiry* (Artistic Inquiry with Practice, Global Cultural Inquiry, and Scientific Inquiry with Practice) requirements in the proposal.
- Reviewed request to split Mathematics and Computer Science into two separate departments. Held an open session to discuss split on

11/30/2015. Faculty approved the motion to split Mathematics and Computer Science into two departments on 12/04/2015.

- Reviewed and approved the splitting of the Economics Weiss Prize into two prizes.
- The Committee on Academic Standing informed CEPP of the FYE policy changes regarding withdrawals and failing grades in FYE. CEPP endorsed the policy changes.
- Streamlined process to approve academic awards for majors or minors currently without a prize through the Associate Dean of Faculty for Student Academic Affairs.
- Reviewed and approved name change of the Environmental Studies program to Environmental Studies and Sciences as well as changing the name of the Government Department to Political Science.
- Reviewed and recommended termination of the BADA Shakespeare Program. At the 03/04/2016 Faculty meeting, the motion to terminate the program passed.
- The Academic Calendar for 2017-2018 was reviewed and approved. CEPP recommends a future CEPP examine the academic calendar policies more in-depth in particular with regards to the Fall semester.
- Reviewed the proposal from David Karp to start a Restorative Justice Center at Skidmore. CEPP supported the proposal with the constraints that it would not impact College resources and space on campus, and that the creation of such a center would not imply endorsement of restorative justice.
- The Committee on Academic Standing presented a proposal to eliminate overload fees beyond the 18-credit limit and CEPP endorsed the proposal.
- Reviewed the Report on Standardized Testing from the Enrollment Management Group and endorsed the recommendation for the College to go test optional.

- Reviewed and endorsed the SGA proposal to alter the membership of Academic Council.
- Received and approved the CEPP ACOCP (Advisory Committee on Off Campus Programs) Sub-committee recommendation to establish a partnership with IES Abroad in Paris to deliver the Skidmore in Paris program.
- Reviewed request to split the Department of Philosophy and Religion into two separate departments. An open session was held on 05/06/2016. Faculty approved the motion to split the Department of Philosophy and Religion into two departments on 05/18/2016.
- Revised CEPP Operating Code to amend membership to match Faculty Handbook language.

Respectfully submitted,

April Bernard, CEPP Chair, Fall 2015

Kelly Sheppard, CEPP Chair, Spring 2016