

CEPP Minutes, September 5, 2003

Present: Michael Arnush (scribe), Hugh Foley, Meghan Fair, Frank Gonzalez, Chuck Joseph, Nick Merrill, Pat Oles, David Peterson, Ray Rodrigues, Paty Rubio, Gordon Thompson (chair)

1. Meeting times, F'03: F9-10.30 except the 2nd Friday of every month (Academic Staff meetings: Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12), when we'll meet from 10.15-11.45.
2. CEPP-list: Jon Ramsey will replace Tina Levith; the committee was inclined to remove Barry Pritzker from the list but keep him apprised of issues and discussions relevant to foundation and corporate relations.
3. Year-long agenda:
 - Vision has the highest priority, both globally and in terms of subcommittee deliberations.
 - Honors: Sarah Goodwin and John Brueggeman think we need to consolidate and strengthen the number and variety of ceremonies celebrating student achievement (an issue discussed briefly on CEPP in S'03), and Sarah and Jon R. have begun to study the issue. The committee consensus is that a reconstituted Committee on Academic Standards and Expectations (CASE), overseen by CEPP, might be the best vehicle to explore this issue.
 - Assessment: a memo circulated by Ray, articulating in part the faculty's unique ownership of assessment, requires CEPP consideration.
 - Cori Filson's proposal to revamp and strengthen study abroad requires CEPP consideration, and it probably belongs within the deliberations on study abroad within the Vision statement and discussions.
4. Vision:
 - Emails: Gordon has received a few to date, mostly supportive (e.g., from Margaret Pearson in History, who wishes to enhance "citizenship" to "informed citizenship").
 - E-forum: an electronic forum can serve a useful purpose for faculty discourse, which the committee endorses. Gordon will consult with Bret Ingerman about creating such a forum. Student responses can best be articulated within Academic Council.
 - Chuck asked how the committee might manage the discussion most fruitfully – e.g., how will other constituencies that have an interest in an academic vision, such as Advancement, Admissions, Alumni Affairs and the Board of Trustees, participate? Should the chair (Mark Hofmann) of the Committee on Admissions and Student Aid (CASA) be invited to meet with CEPP? Gordon will communicate with the BOT on behalf of CEPP at the October meeting. Chuck will consult with Jennifer Delton, chair of the Committee on Academic Standing (CAS).

- The committee discussed at length constructive ways to include LS1 faculty – both the teaching faculty and the LS program administrators (Kate Leavitt, Michael Marx) – and thought it appropriate to ask Kate and Michael to recommend a representative group of LS faculty to meet with Chuck and Gordon informally.
- The committee discussed the logistics of the Sept. 19th faculty meeting, whose agenda will include Benefits and Vision. CEPP will seek an informal endorsement from the faculty at this meeting of the Vision’s principles, in a discussion steered by Gordon and Chuck. By the CEPP meeting on the morning of the 19th, Gordon and Chuck will prepare an agenda for the afternoon faculty meeting for CEPP to review. This faculty meeting will focus primarily on the guiding principles, from which the concrete recommendations stem; on the projected process and timetable for year-long deliberations and consultation, including an outline of the subcommittees and their roles; on the eventual implementation of the Vision; and on the goals of articulating such a college Vision. The committee considered whether to seek on the 19th formal faculty approval of the principles or a sense from the faculty of its endorsement, and opted for the latter.
- Subcommittees: the committee will appoint faculty to the subcommittees, rather than issue a willingness-to-serve. Chuck expressed the need for parallel discussions to occur that take into consideration overarching issues related to Vision – costs, identifying the need and sources for financial support, and marketing strategies, which fall in part within the domain of Advancement – and suggested that a separate subcommittee which he would chair should address these issues. The committee agreed that the participation and role of Advancement within the context of Vision are essential and that CEPP should work with the VPAA/DOF and Advancement on these issues, but that their consideration should remain distinct from the faculty prerogative of articulating an academic vision.
- The committee began a discussion of some of the issues not fully addressed within the circulated Vision statement, such as the clarity of the connection between the guiding principles and the recommendations, and agreed that Sept. 19th faculty meeting is an opportunity for Gordon, Chuck, and indeed all of CEPP to clarify these connections.
- To that end, Chuck and Gordon will prepare for the Sept. 12th CEPP meeting the strategy for the faculty meeting on Sept. 19th.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Arnush