

CEPP Minutes - 4/13/04

Present: Michael Arnush, Meghan Fair, Hugh Foley, Frank Gonzalez, Chuck Joseph, Nick Merrill, Pat Oles, Ray Rodrigues, Paty Rubio, Linda Simon, Gordon Thompson

I. Approval of the minutes for the last meeting was postponed.

II. Discussion of the responses to the FYE proposal, including CEPP's meeting with the Expository Writing Committee and the Science Planning Group, raised the following concerns and questions:

- While the meeting with the Expository Writing Group went well, the concern is that the ED's discussions may not support the EWG's decision.

- Faculty have expressed a general concern regarding the role of mentoring. CJ suggested having John Ramsey talk about the implications of mentoring.

- How will science majors be properly mentored if they take first-year seminars outside of the sciences, as the science faculty itself believes they should? The science faculty believe that if they teach a first-year seminar with some interdisciplinary perspective and without being able to presuppose any knowledge on the part of the students, prospective science majors would find the seminar boring.

- We may all lose advisees currently assigned to us on the basis of their interest in the major.

- On our plan mentoring would start only once a student chooses a first-year seminar rather than earlier in the summer.

- Regarding the concerns raised by HEOP, CJ has suggested that John Ramsey speak to this group.

- We must insure that especially rigid and big programs can support our proposal. Is there any program or major for which waiting until the end of the first year to get an advisor in that area is a problem?

- Is it possible to require that the first-year seminar rotate within a department rather than simply requiring a certain number of sections?

- Curriculum Committee sees differences between the LS2 guidelines and the goals for the first-year seminars, differences that would prevent "slam-dunk" conversions.

- It was decided that the first-year seminar cannot count towards a major, but can count towards an interdisciplinary program. But there may be some gray area in the case of departments that are inherently interdisciplinary, such as Classics.

III. There was then some discussion of MA's Power Point presentation. This data was seen to raise new questions (especially with regard to how we will come up with the additional seats that will be required for students). Do we have the answers?

IV. It was decided that for the Forum on April 23 we need to make individual presentations before opening the floor for discussion.

V. There was very brief discussion of the new draft of the proposal. One suggested change was deleting the reference to "major" at the bottom of p. 3. We agreed that further comments would be sent via e-mail.

Respectfully submitted,

Francisco J. Gonzalez