

Minutes for CEPP's Meeting of March 30, 2005

Present: Molly Appel, Meghan Fair, Hugh Foley, Mathew Hockenos, Ruth Andrea Levinson, Pat Oles, Ray Rodrigues, Patricia Rubio (scribe), Linda Simon, Gordon Thompson (chair)

March 9, 2005 minutes were approved.

Chair's Comments:

CFG will make an alternate appointment for Lisa Aronson's one-year as a replacement, who cannot serve as she and Deb Hall are both in the Art and Art History Department.

Ann Henderson informed Gordon that standard practice for the Calendar's approval was to consult with CEPP. That is why it came to us. Everyone consulted, agreed that beginning of classes on Martin Luther King's Day would allow faculty and students to focus on the meaning of his life and on issues pertaining to civil rights. As a result, CEPP approved the 07-08 calendar as proposed by the Registrar.

Old Business:

Scribner Seminars: Consideration of CAS request that CEPP present procedures for dealing with transfers, withdrawals, and failures.

At the heart of the problem is whether withdrawals and failures from SS pertain to process thus not warranting a policy. CEPP again returned to the issue of whether the Scribner Seminar is a transitional experience or a requirement. In general, CEPP believes that the SS is a special case and that students are required to enroll in this course.

Some members are concerned that we are treating the FYS differently from other requirements, i.e. that students withdrawing from or failing the class will not need to retake it. Because we presently lack data regarding the number of students withdrawing failing or transferring to Skidmore in January, CEPP decided to:

1. Report to the faculty this year on the present state of affairs.
2. CEPP needs to develop policies for students who withdraw from or fail the SSs and those who are January transfers into Skidmore.
3. Next year, CEPP recommend that CAS, the Dean of Studies, and the director of the SSs assess these students on an individual basis.
4. CAS, the Dean of Studies, and the director of the SSs will report their findings to CEPP next spring.
5. CEPP will prepare a proposal based on the findings.

Writing Requirement:

CEPP discussed the establishment of a cross-curricular writing board or task force should the faculty approve the proposed requirement, to establish guidelines, develop workshops for the faculty and continue the conversation on how to further strengthen the requirement. Chuck will refer to this in his opening remarks.

New Business:

Exercise Science and Athletics:

CEPP discussed the impact of placing Athletics in the Dean of Students Affairs Office on their one-credit offerings. Chuck explained that Academic Affairs will continue to review these courses.

CEPP also discussed the situation of Exercise Science, which becomes a de facto department. CEPP will ask Denise Smith to submit a proposal for the establishment of the Department of Exercise Science.