**Minutes for the CEPP Meeting of March 21, 2012**

**In attendance:** Michael Arnush, Logan Brenner (student rep), Rochelle Calhoun, Janet Casey, Rubén Graciani, Mimi Hellman, Chris Kopec, Susan Kress, Josh Ness (chair), Thomas Rivera (student rep)

1. **Minutes.** The minutes of March 7 were approved with minor revisions.
2. **Updates.**

* **Science literacy.** The subcommittee is making progress. A key concern is the definition of learning goals, notably the relationship between the sciences and other disciplines and the relative importance of process or modes of thinking as distinct from a knowledge of natural phenomena.
* **Dean’s card form revision.** The subcommittee has met with interested faculty and revised the new form. It is now considering the resource implications of processing a longer form and the potential role of the instrument in both improving teaching and evaluating teaching.
* **Course caps assessment.** The subcommittee is investigating whether raising course caps had the desired effect, including addressing inequities in both student experience and faculty work. It was noted that the impetus for raising course caps was economic, and the policy impact must be evaluated in terms of cost reduction.
* **T&T.** The subcommittee is drafting a faculty survey. After discussion among all CEPP faculty, the prospect of fora was rejected due to the complex, ongoing discussion of CCI, the recent proliferation of fora on various topics, and the sense that a survey would better capture a range of perspectives.
* **AVD.** Recruitment of civic fellows is proceeding, shaped by logistical issues as well as a misconception that the initiative is linked to a curricular agenda. It was noted that AVD is a faculty development initiative, not a curricular one: CEPP may be updated periodically but plays no role in the project. Fellows will be announced in April and will meet with an external facilitator in June.
* **VPAA report & questions.** The VPAA asked whether CEPP would like periodic updates on the work of the Science Working Group and Science Facilities Task Force, and whether CEPP would like to see the draft of a new policy on political expression. It was agreed that both topics have curricular implications and the committee should be informed. The VPAA also updated the committee on conversations with the Mellon Foundation regarding support for science initiatives in an interdisciplinary, liberal arts context. It was agreed that CEPP should play a role here as well, and that we still need a clearer sense of faculty interests and views on this issue.
* **CCI.** The committee discussed minor revisions to the cover letter explaining the motion and rationale; it will be sent out today in anticipation of the forum on March 30.
* **Meetings for F12.** Fall meetings will take place in the same time slot in Ladd 106. Michael Arnush will serve as chair.
* **Web page update.** It was agreed that the CEPP web page would be updated to include the charges of all active subcommittees.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Mimi Hellman