CEPP Minutes. 2/3/2016

In attendance: Kelly Sheppard (chair), Beau Breslin, Soyong Lee, Erica Bastress-Dukehart, Amy Frappier, Emma Starr, Addison Bennett, April Bernard (scribe)

Not in attendance: Gail Cummings-Danson

1. Minutes from 12/10/2015 and 1/27/2016 approved, as amended.

2. Proposed sharing (splitting in two) of Weiss Prize in Economics discussed and approved by the committee--as an exception to the longstanding "freeze" on "new" prizes to be given at Honors Convocation. Reasons for the exception have to do with the large number of economics majors competing for one prize; the reasonable expectation that work in both micro and macro economics might be prize-worthy in a given year; and that this is not technically a new prize but a splitting of an existing one into two.

3. The committee discussed the "Foundational Writing" requirement--as currently practiced, and as taken up by the new Gen Ed proposal.

 One important consideration will be that if as planned the College moves to no longer require SAT/ACT scores, we will need a new placement diagnostic for incoming first-year students--which Michael Marx, as director of Expository Writing (in the English Dept.) will be overseeing this coming summer of 2016.

 The committee further discussed ways we might clear up what the new Gen Ed proposal does --and does *not --* propose to change about these three categories: Foundational Writing; Close Reading and Writing; and Writing in the Major.

4. Kelly shared his draft of questions to be circulated to the departments, so that each can examine its own current and future practices, with regard to the list of "Requirements to be met in the major" articulated in the Gen Ed proposal. The committee discussed and made suggestions.

5. Kelly and the committee agreed that we will bring the Proposal to the faculty in the late spring or fall of 2016. In the meantime, working subgroups will continue to refine language and, in the case of the Global Understanding subgroup, articulate how Global Understanding is/can be imbedded throughout the Gen Ed curriculum.

6. Kelly asked the committee to come to next week's meeting (2/10) with their calendars in hand, so that we can arrange our regular meetings next fall.

Respectfully submitted,

April Bernard