Committee on Educational Policies and Planning

Meeting Minutes

9 March 2016

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

Absent: Gail Cummings-Danson

1. Minutes from March 2nd, 2016 were approved as written.
2. New Business: The Committee recognized the FEC election results and congratulate CEPP’s new member-elect, Marta Brunner (Library). The Committee also briefly discussed the role of Middle States in the All College Curriculum reform process.
3. Ongoing Business: The Committee discussed at length several aspects of the New Curriculum Proposal under development. CEPP determined that the Core Curriculum should set out expectations for all our graduates, recognizing that a small fraction of students who are admitted with skill gaps will need to take more than one course to meet certain requirements, such as Applied Quantitative Reasoning or Close Reading and Writing. The Curricular model draft under development at present consists of three courses in the Integrative sequence, three Foundations courses, and three Modes of Inquiry. Kelly will revisit the course model and report back about how many courses students would take if these changes are adopted.
   1. After extensive discussion, CEPP added a Global Exploration course as one of three Foundational Requirements, which are all important for success in college as well as a starting point for lifelong learning. CEPP revised the draft description for inclusion in the proposal text.
   2. The Committee discussed Examining Values, finding that this learning goal is addressed in a number of overlapping curricular elements, including in the context of the Bridge Experience, as well as some Scribner Seminars and Senior Experiences and Global Understanding courses and some majors. Descriptive text and a graphic will be developed soon.
   3. The Committee discussed Expository Writing/Close Reading and Writing in depth. Close Reading and Writing would be considered one of the Foundational courses (important for success not only in a liberal arts college environment, but also for lifelong learning). Such courses will be delivered as is our current practice by English as well as American Studies. Faculty from other disciplines are welcome to participate in delivering courses that meet these learning goals. A new draft of descriptive text will be developed in the coming weeks.
   4. The Senior Experience title is an uninspiring placeholder. Emma Starr proposed the elegant and apt title “Senior Coda”. She will work with Addison on updating the description of this curricular element.
4. CEPP discussed the Timeline for the Curriculum Revision process. Beau will organize a time for the Committee to meet together for an afternoon in April to finalize the new proposal text and graphic organizers. Members of CEPP volunteered to revise text for various sections of the proposal.
5. Discussion of the FYE: GOLD proposal was tabled for a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08pm

Respectfully submitted

Amy Frappier