

Educational Policies and Procedures Committee
Minutes for Monday, March 14, 2011

Present: Bruce Conrad, Chris Dennis, Mary Anne Gaffney, Jason Gasper-Hulvat, Eli Goldblat, Peter Jones, Lori Salem (guest), Catherine Schifter (scribe), and Kate Wingert.

There were no minutes from the last meeting to review at this time.

A. Jason reviewed courses for gen Ed

1. Japanese Pop Culture and Its Literature for Individual and Society in the old Core, also a writing intensive course. EPPC approved this course for IN requirement in the Core, but the instructor is to be responsive to the writing center. It appears there are several students from 2008 who need this course for the Core.

2. African American History since 1990 for Race in the old Core. It is an online course. EPPC approved this course for a race course in the old Core

B. Lori Salem, guest talking with us about the fact that writing intensive courses seem to be getting more than 20 students. Lori indicated that there have been no policy changes regarding the maximum number of students for these courses. Courses going forward with new programs have 20 students max. Each semester the instructors get an e-mail from Lori about the number of students, asking people to let her know about numbers in the classes. Every course is to be reviewed every 4 years, and the 20 to one guidelines are just that - guidelines. When there is a TA, then there can be more than 20 students. There was general discussion about the writing intensive course guidelines. All of this relates to the budget crisis looming. Suggestion was made for Lori's e-mails to faculty to be copied to the department chairs to make the information and oversight more visible. One incentive is whether or not the course(s) is/are recertified. There is no policy statement that says the writing intensive courses, honors, and freshman writing courses limit enrollment levels.

Question asked about writing intensive in the summer. Lori said it is done, but the expectations are different. Eli noted there are tradeoffs in the readings, peer review of writings, and more.

C. Prereqs – Peter reported that the decision is to not move ahead due to the rather simplistic way we have put prereqs into Banner. Banner offers 17 options for prereqs,. All the attributes except for course will be running. The problem with the course attribute is that we were never doing it right. A report from last spring showed 57% of students got into courses they should not have given the prereqs. In addition, 51% of our coursers have prereqs. Banner looks for exact matches for prereqs, rather than all the complexity allowed thru Temple. Peter suggested that we might want to look at what Fox School has done to look for numbers of credits, rather than content/course requirements. The goal is to have the problems solved by next fall. Peter said there will be a committee to review this problem and make suggestions, and perhaps EPPC might start the process. Chris noted there were warning options in prior versions, but this is not available in this version of Banner.

E. Update on TUJ – Peter noted that structurally TUJ seems to be okay, but there are rolling blackouts starting. One major problem for both students and faculty is getting to work. There is the possibility of another earthquake to come. TUJ is closed this week by mandate of the government.

Concerns were raised about Japanese students who might have gone back to Japan for spring break. About 18 students have not used their IDs on campus yet. For students who were in Japan who might not want to go back, the provost's office is trying to figure out how to help these students continue their studies. Chris noted that Temple did the same for Katrina students.