

EPPC minutes December 12, 2011

Present: Keya Sadeghipour (Dean, Engineering), Zach Cetlin (Honors), Judith Flaxman (Accounting), Bruce Conrad (Mathematics), Wendy Kutchner (Registrar), Peter Jones (Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies), Chris Dennis (Vice Provost's office), Suman Batish (Biology), Karen Turner (Journalism), Nulgin A-Okur (African American Studies), Eli Goldblatt (English), Teresa Soufas (Dean, CLA), Catherine Schifter (Education), Chair and Scribe.

Guests: Emily Moerer, Vicki McGarvey, Lynne Andersson, and Sandy McDade.

Minutes approved for October 24th with changes in spelling of last names for Zach Cetlin and Suman Batish. Minutes approved for November 28th with no changes.

1. Emily Moerer presented the mentoring programs of the Diamond Scholars and CARS program, asking for recognition of mentoring peer research and peer teaching by faculty. She noted the programs have been in existence since 2004, the first year of Diamond Scholars. Currently there no formal recognition. Peter sends a letter thanking faculty for participating. Each program has expanded and about 300 faculty have participated in some way. Bruce noted there are things that happen, and faculty should be reminded of safety issues. Keya noted this is a good idea, but he pointed out activities other than through these programs would not be recognized. He noted some faculty are out there mentoring, but not signed up for one of these programs. Peter suggest a Deans award for faculty in individual colleges. Peter said he could only recognize those under his aegis. Keya suggested sending to deans. OUTCOME: EPPC endorsed the idea of recognition, and suggest this go on to the deans. Peter will report back.
2. Sandy McDade presented the Sustainability /Certificate Program, that it was a long development process with many committees and many faculty input. TLC started this conversation, and it arose through an oversight committee and the climate action plan. Provost Lisa called for a committee to determine how to infuse sustainability and climate change into the curriculum across the University. One recommendation was a certificate. The sustainability advisory committee was a Presidential level committee. One question was "where" the certificate would live, and to make sure it had an interdisciplinary approach. Sandy went to Vicki about University College. A list of 48 courses was compiled of courses already in existence at the University across several schools and colleges. Advising will continue in the student's home college, rather than through UC. Keya asked about courses that were crossed off while others are not. Peter suggested having one list of courses without prerequisites, while the second longer list having the courses that did have prerequisites listed also. Keya asked the focus of the certificate, and the answer is it is "generalist". Teresa asked the benefit of the certificate, and Sandy said it would support anyone wanting a leg up in understanding sustainability. Lynn pointed out a student in Fox created her own job due to having the cert in sustainability from Fox. Keya noted concern for students not seeing the value. Lynne noted the need for multiple sector approach in the planning. Students must take courses in different disciplines and not in their own majors or college. Chris added the advice from the Provost was to start with

certificate and then expand into a minor degree if the demand warranted. Karen asked about student voices. Suman noted students will gravitate toward minor. Zach said he would see more use for a minor than certificate. Eli applauded the effort to get the certificate to the proposal stage. He spoke in favor of starting with the certificate. His question was about putting it into UC. Vicki noted there is one program now, the Park Service Ranger program. Teresa asked about this going to the President before EPPC, and Vicki said it was an oversight. The President signs certificates, not the Board of Trustees. A minor would have to go to the Board. Vicki noted that UC is not trying to take programs away from other colleges. Eli said he is in favor of this proposal but pointed out it sets a precedent for the future. Suman asked about coming back after graduating. The answer was yes, but not as an undergrad and not for financial aid. Wendy asked about clearing for graduation, and UC would sign off. Zach asked about using Sustainability Week to advertise, and Sandy said she planning on going to the colleges and schools to talk about the certificate, with a multi prong approach. EPPC members suggested an article in Temple News and a discussion with undergraduate government. Peter suggested direct mail out to students who have already met some requirements. Peter noted that they were aware of students telling faculty they were interested in taking more courses in this area of study.

OUTCOME: EPPC decided a committee vote was essential, but there were not enough members present to have that vote. Thus, Catherine will send out to the committee through e-mail and collect the votes to tally here.

Results of the vote was 10 in favor of the proposal, and 2 to table to the next meeting for further discussion. The two who were for the postponement were the two Deans on EPPC. Thus, the proposal will be brought up again for any new evidence to be presented at the January meeting that was not presented at the December meeting.

3. Suman asked if the departments for members could be included in the minutes. Catherine will make that happen.
4. Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.