

EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE MINUTES
6 November 2008

A meeting of the Educational Policies Committee was held on 6 November 2008 at 3 p.m. in Old Main 136 (Champ Hall Conference Room).

Present: Ed Reeve, Chair (representing Larry Smith), Curriculum Subcommittee Chair and Engineering
Scot Allgood, Academic Standards Subcommittee Chair and Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services
Gary Straquadine, General Education Subcommittee Chair (representing Richard Mueller)
David Hole, Agriculture
David Olsen, Business
Ed Glatfelter, HASS
Nancy Mesner, Natural Resources
Don Fiesinger, Science (representing Richard Mueller)
Erin Davis, Libraries
Ronda Menlove, Regional Campuses and Distance Education
Adam Fowles, Graduate Student Senate President
Jeremy Jennings, ASUSU Academic Senate President
Cathy Gerber, Registrar's Office
Roland Squire, Registrar's Office

Absent: Grady Brimley, ASUSU President
Susan Crowley, Graduate Council

I. Minutes of the 2 October 2008 meeting

Scot Allgood moved to approve the minutes of the 2 October 2008 meeting. David Olsen seconded; motion carried.

II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Curriculum Subcommittee

Ed Reeve reviewed the Curriculum Subcommittee business.

All courses were approved.

The request from the Department of Family, Consumer, and Human Development to change the name of the Ph.D. in Family, Consumer, and Human Development major to Ph.D. in Family and Human Development was approved.

Scot Allgood moved to approve the business of the Curriculum Subcommittee. David Hole seconded; motion carried.

B. Academic Standards Subcommittee

Information Item Only

Minutes of the Academic Standards Meeting, October 9, 2008, FL #113

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Scot Allgood with the following people present: Jeannie Pacheco, Ann Roemer, Chris Call, Jeremy Jennings, Scot Allgood, John Mortensen and Ed Glatfelter.

The minutes for the last meeting were approved.

Ann Roemer and Jeannie Pacheco presented the "Undergraduate Admissions at Peer Institutions" list which listed USU ranking #22. The Provost's office used this list which gave scores of IELTS (International English Language Testing System), TOFEL PBT (Test of English Foreign Language-paper) and TOFEL IBT (Test of English Foreign Language-internet based). The tests are all used for admissions and to assess readiness to pursue a major. Due to cultural issues some tests are easier for students from some parts of the world, but there is evidence that they do not have the English proficiency to succeed as a college student. The proposal was to raise USU's test score requirements. After some discussion it was decided that Ann and Jeannie will check on equivalency between the test scores and formal motion will be made at the next meeting.

The Excused Absence Policy that was discussed at last month's meeting has been tabled. Jeremy reported that ASUSU passed legislation that President Albrecht will review and send back to the committee if appropriate.

The meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

C. General Education Subcommittee

Information Item Only

Meeting Minutes October 21, 2008 - 8:30 a.m. Champ Hall Conference Room #136

Present: Richard Mueller (Chair), Wendy Holliday, Nancy Mesner, Gary Straquadine, Grady Brimley, Craig Petersen, Rhonda Miller, Tom Peterson, Cathy Hartman, Brian McCuskey, Rob Barton, Stephanie Hamblin, Mary Leavitt, John Mortensen

Absent: Larry Smith, Phebe Jensen, Wynn Walker, Vince Lafferty, Shelley Lindauer, Richard Cutler, Ryan Dupont, Christie Fox

I. Approval of Minutes

Nancy Mesner motioned that the minutes of September 16, 2008, be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Tom Peterson and was unanimously approved.

II. Course Approvals

- a. PEP 4100: Edward Heath
Health, Physical Education and Recreation
- Pending revisions to Rhonda Miller

III. Syllabus Approval

- a. USU 1330: All syllabi
Creative Arts
 - b. USU 1330: David Sidwell
Civilization: Creative Arts
 - c. USU 1350: Tim Graham
Integrated Life Science
- Pending review by Tom Peterson
Pending revisions to Tom Peterson
Pending review by Ryan Dupont

IV. Other Business

- a. **Educated Persons Conference.** Dick Mueller reminded everyone that the annual Educated Persons Conference is being held on November 7 at Snowbird. He is unable to attend, but encouraged anyone who is able to go. Contact Monica Ingold in History to register.
- b. **General Education Assessment.** Craig Petersen stated that our audit last year revealed some areas of vulnerability. A team will be coming to campus in October 2009 to see what progress we have made. Craig listed the areas of weakness and stated that he would like to see this subcommittee more involved in assessments. As part of the Voluntary System of Accountability "College Portrait" the university has to administer one of three national tests every four years and to post the results on the web. Craig's office will pay for the exam and they are leaning toward the CLA (College Learning Assessment) exam. The test would be administered to a sample of 100 freshmen to establish the baseline and 100 seniors to see what had been accomplished. Wendy Holliday, Rob Barton, Brian McCuskey, and Nancy Mesner offered to work with Craig to take an in depth look at assessments and to bring suggestions back to the Gen Ed Subcommittee next month. Dick will also discuss it with Norm next month when he's in town for the Educated Persons Conference.
- c. **CIL Exam.** Dick Mueller reminded everyone that we have been discussing a double standard regarding the lack of CIL completion for students with associate's degrees from Utah vs. out-of-state institutions. They are treated differently due to Regent's policy that requires USU to accept in-state associates as meeting all Gen Ed requirements. A second issue has arisen regarding charging a late/penalty fee of an additional \$30 if the tests are not passed early enough. Student government is questioning whether the fee went through the proper channels of approval. Rob Barton and Mary Leavitt have both noticed an increase in the number of students taking the tests earlier so perhaps just saying we were going to institute the fee has provided the needed incentive. Rob stated that as far as he could tell the late fee has been policy for quite some time, but it has never been enforced and he is apprehensive to do it now. Brian McCuskey reported that he talked to

Jeff Smitten about the consequences of requiring the exam as a prerequisite to ENGL 2010. Jeff is supportive, but stated it could be an advising nightmare. Dick stated that the Board of Regents would support this change as long as we can demonstrate it is a valid prerequisite. It was motioned that the CIL exam be a prerequisite to ENGL 2010 and that departments be encouraged to make it a prerequisite for depth and mid level courses. Tom Peterson motioned approval and Grady Brimley seconded it. Then Grady asked to be allowed to seek student opinion on this change, so no vote was taken. Mary Leavitt, Rob Barton, and Wendy Holliday will talk to Brock Dethier about the relevance of the prerequisite and draft a memo for the next Gen Ed Subcommittee meeting.

V. Next Meeting – November 18, 2008

III. Other Business

[September 2007 EPC minutes

Bob Heal presented the motion that all business of the Distance Education and Electronic Delivery Subcommittee move straight through to the Educational Policies Committee for this year. And in one year the Educational Policies Committee will reconsider the viability of the Distance Education and Electronic Delivery Subcommittee. Robert Schmidt seconded. Motion carried.]

David Hole made the motion, to recommend to the PRPC, that the code be rewritten to remove the Distance Education and Electronic Delivery Subcommittee. The rationale for this recommendation is that the purpose of the committee is currently being served by other units and the reorganization of Regional Campus and Distance Education. Scot Allgood seconded; motion carried.

The Academic Integrity Policy has been reviewed by Bob Barclay and the Student Government and will be presented to the Academic Standards Subcommittee on Thursday, November 13, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Ed Reeve conducted the meeting.

Cathy Gerber recorded the minutes.