

Introduction: Educational Policies Committee

Report for Faculty Senate 6 February 2006

Faculty Senate Executive Committee 17 January 2006

Joyce Kinkead-Chair, Stanley Allen-Agriculture, Scot Allgood-Education and Human Services, Todd Crowl-Natural Resources, Richard Cutler-Science, Steven Harris (interim replacement for Jennifer Duncan)-Libraries, Quinn Millet, ASUSU President, Spencer Watts, ASUSU Academic VP, Kathy Fitzgerald-HASS, David Luthy-DEED chair, Ronda Menlove-Extension, David Olsen-Business, Maure Smith-GSS President, Jeff Walters-ASC Chair, Darwin Sorensen-Engineering

Meeting Dates:

September 1, 2005, October 6, 2005, November 3, 2005, December 1, 2005, January 5, 2006, February 2, 2006, March 2, 2006, April 6, 2006—all at 3:00 p.m. in Champ Hall, following Curriculum Subcommittee, which commences at 2:00 p.m.

Curriculum Subcommittee

In January meetings, the Curriculum Subcommittee approved the following proposals pending approval from the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee:

Action Items

Request by the Department of Business Information Systems to change the name of the Management Information Systems Emphasis to Managerial Emphasis.

Request by the Department of Business Information Systems to change the name of the Office Systems Management Emphasis to Training and Development Emphasis.

Request by the Department of Business Information Systems to change the name of the Electronic Commerce Emphasis to Technical Emphasis.

The Academic Standards Committee recommends that the existing USU courses requirement be replaced with the following policy (new language in boldface type):

Utah State University Courses

Candidates for a bachelor's degree must complete at least 30 credits at USU's Logan campus or designated centers, or through classes offered by distance education through USU. **A minimum of 20 of these credits must be in upper division courses, of which at least 10 credits must be in courses required by the student's major.**

Academic Standards will address the same requirement for sub-baccalaureate degrees at its next meeting.

Undeclared Nondegree Program

Newly admitted students with less than 45 semester credits who meet the university admission standards, but who have not declared a major or who do not qualify for enrollment into one of the academic colleges, are automatically placed in the Undeclared Program. No degrees are offered through the Undeclared Program. Undeclared students who have not declared a major by the time they complete 45 semester credits will automatically be placed in the General Studies degree program.

Declaring a Major

When a student has demonstrated the ability to maintain a GPA appropriate for the intended major, that student may apply for admission to an academic college and department. Regular college admissions evaluation procedures will then be followed, and if there are no admissions restrictions, the student will be admitted to the department of

his or her choice. It is the student's responsibility, in consultation with an advisor, to complete all necessary paperwork.

General Studies Bachelor's Degree Program

The General Studies bachelor's degree program provides students with the opportunity to pursue a personalized course of study. This major allows students to explore and integrate academic offerings from across multiple departments and programs. USU students with at least a 2.0 GPA qualify for admission to this major. Transfer students from other institutions need a total GPA of at least 2.5 for admission to this major in good standing. Transfer students with a GPA between 2.2 and 2.49 may be considered on an individual basis.

Admission Policy for Home-Schooled Students. USU Director of Admissions, Jimmy Moore, submitted a proposed policy for use in admitting home-schooled students to USU.

Admission Requirements

Home-schooled Students

Home-schooled students applying for admission to Utah State University who submit a transcript from an accredited home school organization will be evaluated the same as a traditional high school student. They must satisfy the university's admission requirements of a minimum 2.5 point average, a minimum ACT score of 19 or an equivalent SAT score, and a minimum Admissions Index of 90.

Those home-schooled students without transcripts must provide a list of classes they have completed and a minimum ACT score of 21, or an ACT score of 19 accompanied by a grade of C on the GED, to be admitted to Utah State University.

EPC asked for a report on this new policy annually.

Provisional Admission

Under special circumstances, a student who does not qualify for admission into one of the academic colleges or the Undeclared Program may be admitted provisionally. This may include a new student who graduated from high school with an admission index score below the standard. Provisional admission offers students a chance to prove themselves academically at the University.

Students who are admitted provisionally must sign an institutional agreement with University Advising and Transfer Services to indicate that they are fully aware of the provisions associated with their admission. For a new student, these provisions include completion of 12 or more graded semester credits while maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher within the first term. Other provisions, including specific courses in which to enroll, may be detailed in a contract on a case-by-case basis.

Information Items

Proposals pending approval of Graduate Council and Budget and Faculty Welfare: two proposals from the College of Engineering: MS degree Plan C Engineering and Technology Education; MS in Computer Engineering and a ME in Computer Engineering.

EPC wants to clarify that graduate proposals need to first be filed with the Graduate Council. Proposals with financial implications should also be filed with the Budget & Faculty Welfare Committee.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree requirements. The ASC adopted a motion recommending approval by the EPC of the amended BA degree language requirements.

A Bachelor of Arts degree signifies proficiency in one or more foreign languages. Specifically, the BA requirement must be completed in one of the following ways:

1. Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language by successful completion of one course at the 2020 level or higher or its equivalent.

OR

2. Demonstration of proficiency in two foreign languages by successful completion of the 1020 course level in one language and the 2010 course level in the second language or its equivalent.

OR

3. Completion of an upper-division (3000-level or above) foreign language grammar or literature course that requires the 2020 course level or its equivalent as a prerequisite. Conversation courses cannot be considered in satisfying this requirement.

The following options are for non-native English-speaking students only:

1. Successful completion of the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) program for international students

OR

2. TOEFL, Michigan, or IELI placement scores high enough to meet the University admission criteria.

The EPC committee approved the proposal that requires **students registering for more than 18 credits** to present their dean's signed authorization to the Registrar's Office.

EPC will hold open meetings concerning the proposed **suspension of enrollment** for Business Information Technology and Education (BITE) and Marketing Education (MKED) programs as outlined in Policy 406.3.

EPC will hold open meetings concerning the proposed **suspension of enrollment** for Two-Year certificate and Diploma Programs in the Department of Music as outlined in Policy 406.3.

DEED Committee Progress Report

Faculty Senate charged EPC on October 5 to consider a process for approving the delivery of programs at distance education sites and to define terms in delivery. DEED delivered a progress report and shared drafts of documents for review. EPC found the Form for Approval of Programs Offered Distance Education with its matrix particularly useful; the form might be used as the basis of a memo of understanding between a department and Continuing Education. Several department heads raised concerns about where approval authority resides. EPC asked the DEED chair to meet with the Department Heads Executive Council if invited. DEED will continue to work on its charge but wanted to share a draft to show progress. With a reorganization in the future, DEED did ask if Faculty Senate and the Blue Ribbon Committee may want to consider if a policy is needed or should be put on hold until the reorganization is effected. DEED is also recommending that our *General Catalog* be transparent for students and enumerate the delivery options for courses. DEED will report again at the next EPC meeting.

A Curriculum Handbook, developed by the Curriculum Subcommittee, is in draft form and is being revised and should be in final form by the February meeting. The handbook is also a result of the charge from Faculty Senate.

Recommendations

EPC recommends approval of above changes by Faculty Senate.