The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

**Minutes**

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Attending: Helena Dettmer (Chair); Jill Beckman; Andrew Forbes; Matthew Gilchrist; Kathryn Hall (staff); Meena Khandelwal; Jerald Moon; Ana Rodríguez-Rodríguez; Tristan Schmidt; Shaun Vecera

Absent: Anita Jung; Rebekah Kowal

1. The minutes from February 7, 2019, were approved as written.
2. Matthew Gilchrist, UEPCC liaison to the General Education Curriculum Committee (GECC), reviewed the proposals recently discussed by GECC. UEPCC then recommended the following two courses for approval for GE status, as listed below:
* ENGL:1100 City of Literature for GE CLAS Core area of Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts.
* CPH:1600 Public Health Science: Inquiry and Investigation in Public Health (3 s.h), Quantitative or Formal Reasoning.
1. UEPCC members reviewed two new courses offered by the College Board Advanced Placement Program (AP) and recommended CLAS accept a score of 4 or 5 as elective credit for each of these offerings. The two courses, AP Seminar and AP Research, are part of the AP Capstone, with the Seminar a required prerequisite for the Research component. Both courses require a year-long research project. The Research course also requires a presentation and a defense in place of a standard AP exam. The two courses enhance introductory research skills was well as writing and oral skills. For students with an interest in research, UI is an excellent choice because of the many research opportunities available. Acceptance of this credit as elective hours could encourage these students to attend UI and continue with this interest. More information about these two courses are available here: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-capstone?course=ap-capstone-diploma-program>
2. Members were updated on the ACE Online Teaching Evaluation Committee. The campus-wide committee was formed last spring, partially in response to the drop in the rate of returned evaluations since the process was moved online. Other institutions have also experienced significant drops in returned evaluations during and immediately after the transition to an online system. The return rate at UI, however, remains low and is a concern. The committee is charged with examining ACE online and with recommending “new and improved user-friendly practices and policies.” The committee is organized into three subcommittees, with each focused on one of the following topics: a) the ACE questions and the number asked; b) the appropriate use of collected ACE information; c) and other feasible strategies for supporting personnel decisions. The committee next discussed a draft of two ACE questions, noting that both were subjective and could be misconstrued by students. A student focus group will be responding to the questions shortly, and Tristan Schmidt, student member of UEPCC, will report to the committee on the outcomes. The committee also noted that dividing the questions into two sections, with one about the instructor and the other about the course, could disadvantage teaching assistants who sometimes are required to teach a course organized by another person or by the department. Members of UEPCC will return to this discussion in future weeks and will also discuss this matter with those serving on the various subcommittees.
3. Adjournment of meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena Dettmer
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Professor, Classics
UEPCC Secretary pro tem