Educational Policies Committee Minutes, November 4, 2004

Utah State University

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A meeting of the Educational Policies Committee was held on 4 November 2004 at 3 p.m. in Old Main 136 (Champ Hall Conference Room).

Present: Joyce Kinkead, Chair
Richard Mueller, Acting Curriculum Subcommittee Chair
Jeff Walters, Academic Standards Subcommittee Chair
David Luthy, Distance and Electronic Education Subcommittee Chair
Scot Allgood, Education and Human Services
Paul Wheeler, Engineering
Chris Luecke, Natural Resources
Richard Cutler, Science
Ronda Menlove, CIDL
Jennifer Duncan, Library
A J Rounds, Graduate Council
Cathy Gerber, Staff
Rachel Lewis, Staff
Cindy Moulton, Staff

Absent: Norm Jones, General Education Subcommittee Chair
Stan Allen, Agriculture
David Olsen, Business
Kathryn Fitzgerald, HASS, Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee representative
Les Essig, ASUSU President

Visitor: Heidi Beck, Registrar’s Office

I. Minutes of the 7 October 2004 meeting

Richard Cutler moved to approve the minutes of the 7 October 2004 meeting. Scot Allgood seconded; motion carried.
II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Curriculum Subcommittee

Richard Mueller reviewed the Curriculum Subcommittee business. He reported that all the course changes were approved.

The discussion on thesis and dissertation grades, as P/F only, was tabled until the December 2\textsuperscript{nd} meeting.

The request to add an emphasis in the area of Computational Engineering to the existing Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering was approved.

The request for the Composite Mathematics/Statistics major, from the Mathematics and Statistics Department was approved.

The request for the Composite Agricultural Systems Technology/Agribusiness major, from the College of Agriculture was approved.

The request from the Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Speech Communication to award up to 16 lower-division foreign language credits to students who have two-year proficiency in languages not taught at USU was approved.

The recommendation that student credit hours for multiple-listed courses be credited to the department of the instructor was approved.

The report on requiring a breadth course for each student’s major was tabled until the December 2\textsuperscript{nd} meeting.

The SOC 1010 grade requirement change was an information-only item.

Ronda Menlove led the discussion on the Proposed Composite Teaching – Physical Science BS/BA - Snow College and Utah State University Partnership. This was presented as an information-only item. The Curriculum Subcommittee had the following concerns: What is the procedure for items like this, should the Budget and Faculty Welfare (BFW) Committee be informed, and who has signature authority on granting these degrees? Ronda explained that CIDL is the delivery organization. The department must be heavily involved, and there must be a clear track. Richard Mueller will contact Steve Bialkowski concerning the involvement of the BFW committee.

A revision to the Dual Major definition contained in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual was approved. The current policy is as follows: “In a dual major, any combination of two majors is possible and may be described in the General Catalog or on the major requirement sheets.” The following sentence should be added to this policy. “Exceptions to this policy include the Interdisciplinary Studies degree, which may not be combined with another major in a
A J Rounds moved to approve the business of the Curriculum Subcommittee. Chris Luecke seconded; motion carried.

B. Academic Standards Subcommittee

The Academic Standards Subcommittee (ASC) met on October 11, 2004. The following issues were considered at this meeting:

1. **Articulation of credit from less-accredited sources.** The Subcommittee reviewed the flow chart outlining the procedures to be followed for evaluating and accepting transfer credit from these sources and adopted a motion recommending EPC approval of the process as outlined. John Mortensen suggested that the term “other-accredited institutions” would be a preferable designation of this category, in place of “less-accredited institutions.”

2. **Definition of “Good Standing.”** On the recommendation of John Mortensen, who informed the Committee that other initiatives are under consideration that are related to this issue, the ASC agreed to suspend its consideration of this item pending further developments.

3. **Academic accommodation for students fulfilling civic/military obligations.** The ASC reviewed a proposed resolution on the issue of academic accommodation for students called for jury service that is under consideration by ASUSU, and provided Heidi Evans with input that she could share with her fellow members on the Executive Council at its meeting on October 12, 2004.

4. **Impact of state mandates on course repeat policy.** The state has adopted a policy that a tuition surcharge must be imposed when a student repeats a course two or more times. Current USU policy allows a student to repeat a course twice in order to improve his/her grade. The exact implementation of the state policy was unclear to the Committee, but it was agreed that USU was entitled to maintain its current repeat policy on academic grounds, if it so chose, regardless of the financial implications to students posed by the state policy.

5. **Policy on Credit by Examination and Course Credit in the Same Subject Area.** The existing policy on this issue states, “If, prior to taking a CLEP examination, a student has received credit (including AP credit) for any coursework equivalent to the subject matter of a CLEP examination, the credits earned from the course will be deducted from the earned CLEP credits.” (USU General Catalog, p.17). John Mortensen proposed a revision of this policy as follows: “If, prior to or after taking an AP, CLEP, IBO, or DSST examination, a student receives credit for any coursework equivalent to the subject matter of an AP, CLEP, IBO, or DSST examination, the number of credits earned for the course will be deducted from the credits awarded for the examination.” The ASC adopted a motion recommending EPC approval of the revised policy statement. NOTE: The inclusion of additional examinations in this policy would necessitate a change in the heading of the section in which it appears from “CLEP Examinations” to “Standardized Examinations” or some other suitable phraseology.

Richard Cutler moved to approve the business of the Academic Standards Subcommittee. Scot Allgood seconded; motion carried.
C. General Education Subcommittee
   No Report

D. Distance and Electronic Education Subcommittee
   No Report

III. Other Items of Business

Ronda Menlove will report back to Distance Education and ask about the purpose of the Distance and Electronic Education Subcommittee. Does it need to continue? If so, what is their charge? This will be discussed at the December 2\textsuperscript{nd} meeting.

The Proposed Composite Teaching-Physical Science BS/BA – Snow College and Utah State University Partnership was presented as an information-only item.

Meeting adjourned 3:30 p.m.
Joyce Kinkead conducted the meeting.
Cathy Gerber recorded the minutes.