

EPC Minutes 11/06/2023

Present: Annie Blazer, Candice Benjes-Small, Ben Boone, Myriam Cotten, Michael Cronin, Alana Davis, Jim Deverick, Cathy Forestell, Michael Gaynes, Brennan Harris, Oliver Kerscher, Van Monday, Christy Porter, Denise Ridley-Johnston, Megan Sanbury

1. Approval of Previous Minutes (10/30):

Minor typos were corrected in the previous week's minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

2. Consent Calendar

 The consent calendar was approved.

Anthropology	drop linguistic anthropology requirement for 3 years	curr change
CONS 493	Conservation GIS Research	new course
ENGL 213	One Good Book: Othello	C350
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GOVT 150	Gender Based Violence and the State	C150
THEA 100	Historical Storytelling: The Art and Craft of Scripting the Past	C100

3. Other Proposals

ENGL 200-02	Marriage and Modernity	C200 ALV>CSI
Global Studies - Russian and Post-Soviet Studies	program name change	curr change

ENGL 200-02 Marriage and Modernity: This is an existing topics class seeking approval for COLL 200. There was concern that the draft syllabus didn't provide an assignment breakdown by percentage of total grade. Jim will follow up with the instructor.

Approved for COLL 200.

Global Studies - Russian and Post-Soviet Studies: This is a request to change the name of the program from Russian and Post-Soviet Studies (RPSS) to Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (REEES).

The only changes requested are to the name of the program and the corresponding acronym. Ben will follow up with Cory regarding an appropriate acronym.

Since this is not a change to the degree, only the concentration, this change does not need SCHEV approval. However, it was agreed that, pending EPC approval, the name change should go before FAS.

EPC approved.

4. Dean's List GPA threshold discussion.

Shelly Lorenzo's office requested EPC input regarding the threshold levels for the Dean's List. Currently 50% of students reach the threshold of 3.6 Grade Point Average.

The discussion settled on three issues for Jim to follow up with Shelly:

- Changing from a GPA (currently 3.6) to a percentile (e.g., Top 20%) cut-off.
- Creating a two-tiered Dean's List (e.g., Boston College model: Top 10% & Top 20%)
- Collecting data to gauge what these changes may look like as well as demographics.

It was agreed that changes should be approved by FAS.

5. COLL 100/150 capacity changes.

An extensive discussion regarding officially and permanently raising class sizes for COLL 100 & 150 to 27 and 16, respectively, proved to be inconclusive. Continuing to add these additional seats is the equivalent of adding 3 to 4 sections and just barely meets demand. Doing so will buy the Dean's Office space to better plan allocations and resources, as well as decrease stress and provide options for students.

Some committee members had concerns with the quality of instruction of larger classes and potential backlash from faculty refusing to teach the larger classes.

Paths forward included better communication with faculty and units to discuss the urgent need for support of the COLL curriculum at all levels, on par with the majors, and classroom support in the form of undergraduate teaching assistants. Additionally, ideas were proffered for faculty to have the option to teach larger classes (e.g., Chuck Bailey's course) or team teach larger sections. Suggestions to double-dip COLL requirements, as is currently the case with COLL 350, may run into SCHEV issues.

A straw poll of the committee to enact these changes as a 3-year pilot was evenly split.

Discussion was tabled to be readdressed at the next meeting.

No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm

Minutes submitted by Michael Gaynes