

To: Faculty Senate

From: Educational Policy Committee

Date: June 1, 2023

Subject: EPC Annual Report

Per the Constitution of the Portland State University Faculty, the charge of the Educational Policy Committee is as follows:

The Committee shall:

- 1) Serve as the faculty advisory body to the President and to the Faculty Senate on matters of educational policy and planning for the University.
- 2) Take notice of developments leading to such changes on its own initiative, with appropriate consultation with other interested faculty committees, and with timely report or recommendation to the Faculty Senate.
- 3) Make recommendations to the Senate concerning the approval of proposals from appropriate administrative officers or faculty committees for the establishment, abolition, or major alteration of the structure or educational function of departments, distinct programs, interdisciplinary programs, divisions, schools, colleges, centers, institutes, or other significant academic entities. All proposals must use the Process for Creation, Elimination and Alteration of Academic Units.
- 4) In consultation with the appropriate Faculty committees, recommend long-range plans and priorities for the achievement of the mission of the University.
- 5) Undertake matters falling within its competence on either its own initiative or by referral from the President, faculty committees, or the Faculty Senate.
- 6) Form subcommittees as needed to carry out its work.
- 7) Report to the Faculty Senate at least once each term.

The EPC is a university-wide committee appointed, as follows, by the Committee on Committees:

Co-chairs: Tim Anderson (MCECS, 2019-) & Mollie Janssen (SW-2018-2023)

AO: Cynthia Baccar, REG (2016-)

CLAS-AL (WLL): Jon Holt (2021-)

CLAS-AL (COMM) Lee Shaker (2021-)

CLAS-SC (MTH): Gerardo Lafferriere (2020-)

COTA: Eleanor Erksine (2021-)

CUPA: David Kinsella (2021-)

LIB: Joan Petet (2021-)

MCECS: Tim Anderson (2019-)

OI: Michael Lupro (2019-)

SB: Zafrin Rahman (2021-)

Kris Fedor (CLAS)
Joseph Bohling (2022-)
Bryant Carlson (2022-)
Max Nielsen-Pincus (2022-)

Ex officio: Jill Emery (LIB), Budget Committee, and one (1 out of 2) student appointed by ASPSU: no student was appointed this AY to our knowledge

Consultants:

Susan Jeffords, Provost
Andreen Morris, OAA
Kathi Ketcheson, Director, OIRP
Kevin Reynolds, Vice Pres. for Finance & Administration

Report:

Fall

Carry over from Spring 23 Registrar's office needed to provide more robust definition of credit hours with examples to align with accreditation. Presentation on existing definition and proposal with discussion and feedback occurred. It was deemed this was not a change per se but simply clarification. Changes were presented to FS as well.

EPC delivered memo to the Provost regarding attempted administrative merger of two units with no faculty voice.

Presentation: ARC proposal re: UNST Junior Cluster requirement. Interdisciplinary majors and proposing courses take towards those majors can be released toward cluster requirements. Discussion with EPC providing some feedback but ultimately supporting the proposal.

Continued work on teaching guidance drafted last AY by EPC subcommittee, attempting to collaborate with OAI and incorporate research findings. Due to demands and stressors within units and full agendas each EPC meeting little progress was reported on from this subcommittee.

Discussion and request to Registrar office to review and address finals schedule for undergraduate students that does not align with in person class days. (A final may end up on a day their course was not offered which impacts students who have scheduling conflicts on non-class days). Registrar office reviewed and was able to address successfully.

Winter

Feedback to OAI re: survey about student experience re: Attend Anywhere courses after OAI presentation and discussion. [Communication](#) voiced concerns and hopes for any future surveys.

Reviewed moratorium year 1 report for [B.A. in World Languages - Chinese](#) and Minor. Developed and implemented practice for tracking and reviewing programs in moratorium as no consistent practice had previously been established. Andreen Morris created a [spreadsheet](#) to assist EPC to track moratoriums more intentionally and consistently. Discussion of impending proposal re: Environmental science geology and mgmt to work better collectively, exploring how to form a school/unit. ESM, Geography, Geology, Biology, Anthropology, and System Science had all voted positively to move forward.

Discussion with representatives who were involved with engaging of Global Tech offering courses outside of PSU. Information was gathered regarding how this outside entity offering credits was established, what conversations with impacted units did or did not happen, communication to students and impacted regarding related majors and financial aid were discussed. Feedback was provided regarding missed opportunities, need for more collaboration and intent vs. impact.

Spring

Reviewed and approved new moratorium submissions for:

[B.A. in International and Global Studies -- Asian Studies](#)

[B.A. in International and Global Studies -- Latin American Studies](#)

[MPA-HA](#)

Presentation from Classroom Experience Project leads regarding pilot policy on new course evaluations. Feedback from EPC provided to the leads.

Sent [memo](#) to Provost re: impact of hiring freeze on units and students as demonstrated through moratorium applications and reviews. Faculty Senate copied.

Discussed [proposal](#) for Bachelor Applied Science to be offered at PSU. EPC may still craft memo in response. TBD at last EPC meeting of AY.

Additional notes

Tim Anderson has agreed to continue to Co-Chair next academic year. Three returning members are in consideration for Co-Chair to be decided at next EPC meeting.

EPC wants to thank members transition off of EPC for their service; Yasin Tunc, Gerardo Lafferriere, and Mollie Janssen

Copies of communication from EPC embedded or available upon request.