

Educational Policy Committee (EPC) Meeting

Minutes of May 7, 2013

Committee Members: Steve Aurilio (Chair); Nohel Corral; Brian Daniel; Katharine Harer; Imelda Hermosillo; John Mosby; Joe Morello; Rashin Parsa; Cal Robinson; Janet Weber; Linda Whitten.

Members Not Present: Nohel Corral; Brian Daniel; John Mosby; Janet Weber.

Guest: None

Scribe: Steve Aurilio

Motion/Second/Carried = MSC

Timekeeper: Steve Aurilio

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| I. | CALL TO ORDER: | 2:10 PM by Steve Aurilio |
| II. | QUORUM? (Quorum is 50% + 1) | Yes: (7 of 11 members present) |
| III. | ADOPTION OF TODAY'S AGENDA: | MSC: Joe/Katharine/Carried |
| IV. | APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: | MSC: Joe/Katharine/Carried |
| V. | SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS: | None |
| VI. | OLD BUSINESS: | Discussion as follows: |

Recap of Last Meeting

The scheduled meeting for April's Educational Policy Committee was **cancelled**.

Follow-up Discussion from previous March 5th EPC meeting:

Student Recognition for Certificates at Commencement

It was agreed that it was a good idea to publicly recognize students for their scholastic achievements, but that the logistics for doing so would still need to be worked out.

Today's follow-up discussion:

Joe said that he is serving on the Graduation Committee and knows that students *will* be recognized for state-approved certificates (cert's of 18 or more units) at this year's commencement exercises to be held on May 24. The deadline for providing certificate information was on May 6. The next Graduation Committee meeting is to be held on May 8. We should have a better idea on the number of graduates by May 8th.

There were questions about how much additional time would be taken up during the degree awards for also recognizing students for earning certificates. Joe said that it would be difficult to pinpoint the amount of additional time or the exact number of students who will be recognized for earning certificates, since this is the first year we'd be doing it. He said that last year there were about 190 students who participated in commencement exercises, which is approximately the same number of graduates that we've had in the past. He said that not all of the qualifying students always show up for commencement, too. So, there is really no way to know for sure what we will end up with until the 24th. After that, we will have a better idea for what to expect for the following years.

Joe said that to speed things along, the plan is to have the students enter from two different directions to receive their diplomas and recognition, and then exit down the middle. If the numbers exceed the 190 range, this will most likely create a logistical dilemma that will need to be worked out. The length of the ceremony will most likely be increased somewhat, since a certain percentage of degree students will also be recognized for earning certificates.

Cal asked who it was that decided to incorporate certificate recognition into the degree ceremony. Joe surmised that it was most likely College Council that approved it. Cal asked if the (EPC) Committee had given them any recommendation on this, and we agreed that we had not, although we had discussed the issue when it was first brought up by Nohel at our February 5th EPC meeting. At the following March 5th EPC meeting we entertained the idea of perhaps having the certificate recognitions handled by their being mentioned in the commencement program, to help save time, and this alternative was forwarded to VPSS Joi Blake by Steve, but no formal EPC recommendation was made to College Council.

The EPC Committee has agreed that the idea of student recognition is sound and we stand behind it, but our concerns have solely been for the logistics (i.e. time, space, etc.). Katharine asked about programs and divisions being able to have their own student recognition ceremonies, and we agreed that they did.

Joe also mentioned that tickets were not going to be issued this year, as in the past, but that tickets would be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis. The ceremony would be streamed live if there is any overflow. Joe then explained how the gym would be set-up to handle the ceremonies.

Feasibility for Academic Standards Committee to Review Student Petitions

The feasibility of creating an academic standards committee that would be charged with addressing student petitions for exemption from various college and district policies.

Today's follow-up discussion:

Tabled until next EPC meeting in the fall.

VII. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

EPC Committee members, along with outside faculty, staff, and administrators, are invited to make suggestions for items of discussion for the Educational Policy Committee. Agendas must be sent out no later than 72 hours before committee meetings. Anyone having an item for the agenda should provide it to the EPC Chair no later than 5 working days prior to next EPC meeting date. Thank you!

Items of Discussion for next EPC Meeting: None.

Roundtable

The Educational Policy Committee will next meet in the fall of 2013. A new Committee Chair is to be selected. Current members are welcome and encouraged to continue for the next semester. If you are unable to continue, please check with your divisions and let us know who your replacement will be.

Adjournment

No other business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Next Meeting

Next EPC meeting: **Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 6-6205.**

Thanks to everyone for attending and participating in the work of this Committee. You are all very much appreciated!

Steve Aurilio, Chair
Educational Policy Committee