

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Meeting Minutes: October 20, 2015

3:30 PM, 355 Loew

Members present: Jennifer Turns, Chair (HCDE); Bob Breidenthal (AA); Chris Neils (BioE); Mike Dodd (CEE); Brad Holt (ChemE); Hal Perkins (CSE); Daniel Kirschen (EE); Mark Ganter (ME); Colin Butler (Undergraduate Student Representative); Jennifer Tsai (ISE Advisor); Brian Fabien (Associate Dean for Academic Affairs); Scott Winter (Ex Officio, Academic Affairs); Dan Feetham (Ex Officio, Academic Affairs)

Members absent: Shan Liu (ISE); Jihui Yang (MSE).

Minutes - The October 6 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

New Course and Course Change Applications

CEE 507 Structural Stability – New course application. Mike Dodd gave a brief overview of this course which was offered previously as a CEE 599. This is a common course for a structural engineering curriculum. The application was unanimously approved.

ME 416 Engineering Innovation in Medicine Design Preparation – New course application. This proposal was tabled at the September 29 meeting to allow for review by the Bioengineering department. Chris Neils reported that he had discussed the course with Jonathon Posner, the ME faculty member proposing the course. Chris confirmed with Jonathon that ME 414 should be listed as a prerequisite. The application was unanimously approved pending final concurrence by BioE. The BioE curriculum committee considered the course at their October 21 meeting. An email confirming the department's concurrence was sent for inclusion with the course application.

Old Business

Discussion of Direct-to-College Admission Proposal – The discussion focused on the admission and placement process for the DTC cohort. A set of PowerPoint slides prepared by Scott Winter were used to guide the discussion. The slides outlined a process where the Office of Admission would select the DTC cohort based on criteria provided by the College of Engineering. The bulk of the discussion was on the department placement process. The steps outlined included two department placement processes, one in the summer and another in early winter quarter. Surveys would be used in the spring and fall to assess interest in order to anticipate which departments would be impacted (insufficient capacity to meet all student requests). DTC students would submit a ranked list of departments along with a general personal statement and department specific statements. There was discussion about the number of departments students would be asked to list and whether or not they should be required to list a non-impacted department. This is still an open question. Departments would be asked to rank students based on their transcripts and statements, and a match process would be implemented. The National Residency Matching algorithm was suggested as a possible model for the match process.

There was discussion around students who enter with significant amounts of AP/Running Start credit and who will have completed all placement course requirements after their first quarter at the UW. Concern was expressed that one quarter of UW course work may not be enough for students to demonstrate their ability to successfully complete required courses. Others indicated that these students are generally high achieving and that placement after one quarter is appropriate.

There was also a brief discussion about placed DTC students who want to change majors. The sentiment of the committee is that these students would be considered through the “interest changer” admission pathway.

A potential imbalance of student interest continues to be a significant concern, and whether or not the intended major/s listed on the freshman application are used in the DTC selection process continues to be a topic of discussion.