

## COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Meeting Minutes: April 18, 2017

3:30 PM, Loew 355

Members present: Jennifer Turns, Chair (HCDE); Raymond Golingo (AA); Chris Neils (BioE); Joe Mahoney (CEE); Ruth Anderson (CSE); John Sahr (EE); Shan Liu (ISE); Jennifer Tsai (ISE Advisor); Mark Gantner (ME); Brian Fabien (Associate Dean for Academic Affairs); Shanai Lechtenberg (Ex Officio, Academic Affairs); Scott Winter (Ex Officio, Academic Affairs)

Members absent: Brad Holt (ChemE); Dwayne Arola (MSE); Ryan Carlin (MSE student)

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### Minutes

The April 4 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

### Courses

- *A A 395 Undergraduate Seminar* – Course change application. Changing course number from AA 496 to AA 395. **Approved.**
- *E E 592 Electrical Engineering Research Survey* – Course Change Application. Dropping the course. **Approved**
- *New Prefixes for Civil & Environmental Engineering* – Proposal to create the following new course prefixes for graduate courses in existing specialty areas:
  - CESG for the Structural and Geotechnical Engineering and Mechanics courses.
  - CET for the Transportation Engineering courses
  - CEWA for the Environmental, Water, Air courses.

The new prefixes were approved.

### Old Business

- *Direct to College Updates*
  - The timing and milestones for transition to the DTC admission process were briefly reviewed. There was some general discussion about departments admitting a larger number of the 2017 pre-engineering cohort through the Early Admission pathway.
  - An overview was provided of the DTC transition working group.

### New Business

- *Proposed Suspension of Mathematics Minor*

There was a discussion of the proposal by the Mathematics department to suspend the math minor for a period of 3 years. Prior to the meeting, a number of the engineering departments shared feedback that they encounter a significant number of students who have declared the minor but who have difficulty getting the courses required to complete it. Also, the advisers reported that students often indicate they are pursuing the minor largely because it requires a limited amount of additional course work. This feedback was echoed during the CEP discussion. With this in mind, the discussion was supportive of actions necessary to remedy

the current situation. However, there wasn't a consensus on whether or not a 3-year suspension was the best course of action. There wasn't necessarily opposition to a suspension; it just wasn't clear that a 3-year suspension was the only option available. A number of CEP members indicated their belief that it is important for the UW to have a math minor available to students. It was pointed out that the Applied Mathematics minor is an alternative. However, members were looking for assurance that there is a commitment to have a math minor.

- *Bioresource Sciences and Engineering (BSE) participation in the DTC process*  
Leadership from the College of the Environment and the BSE program are interested in having the BSE program integrated into the Direct-to-College admission process. CEP discussion about this possibility was generally supportive. The CEP will review any 1503 proposals from BSE prior to a final decision regarding College support.
- *Wiley online textbook license proposal*  
A proposal from Wiley was reviewed and discussed. The proposal offered the UW a one-year license to 18 on-line textbooks for \$80K. The e-books would be available to all students taking the courses that use the titles. There was a discussion of the proposal and about the cost of textbooks in general. Significant concern about the cost of textbooks was expressed. The possibility of donor support for a proposal of this type was identified. While the Wiley proposal looked interesting, there was not a clear strategy on how the College might implement it. Academic Affairs staff will review further and consider options.
- *Learning Spaces Policy*  
CEP members were encouraged to make note of the new learning spaces policies that will be implemented for spring of 2018 and to follow-up with their department to ensure appropriate planning was underway.