Evaluation & Assessment Committee January 24, 2020—Minutes

Present: Marty Blackson, Martin Kennedy, Greg Lyman, Stephen Robison, Terry Wilson, Cynthia Zhang Absent: Madalyn Hughes Guests: Lidia Anderson

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. Agenda was approved as presented. Minutes of January 17, 2020 were approved as amended.

Chair Updates

Martin received an email from a faculty member in the Math Department who had some questions about offering grade incentives for SEOIs. Warren Plugge, a faculty member from ETSC has also been in contact with ongoing concerns about SEOIs and college/departmental thresholds for promotions. Warren would like to see a statement about response rates and decisions about promotion and tenure being made based on only a few responses. When departments and/or colleges make these decisions based only on response rates, it can be especially problematic for small classes that have inherently low SEOI response rates because of the low numbers of students enrolled. Martin will contact Warren and offer some time at the next meeting so that he can discuss his concerns with the committee.

EC Updates

None.

Student Rep Updates

a. SEOI poll (on social media) To be discussed at next meeting.

SEOI Policy Language

Lidia Anderson attended to address confusion surrounding cross-listed and equivalent courses. This question arose at the last meeting due and stemmed from some of EC's feedback to the draft SEOI policy language. More clarity was needed about the types of courses that could be combined, the circumstances in which this can be done, and who is responsible for doing it.

Cross-listed courses, layered courses, and equivalent courses are three different things. Equivalent courses have the same course ID; cross-listed courses don't have their own unique course ID but have their own prefix and title. Layered courses can be different levels but have the same course prefix. Some departments call them stacked courses.

Currently, any courses that are already cross-listed or layered at the course level are combined for SEOIs. Combining potentially equivalent, layered, and/or cross-listed courses at the scheduling level has to be done through the registrar's office. Lidia can come back to the next meeting and bring someone from the registrar's office to address questions related to this. Lidia will also send some examples of each type of course (equivalent, layered, cross-listed) to Martin.

Open Access Journal Discussion

a. Decide where the statement should be housed

The statement already potentially falls under Section I.C.1.d in the Faculty Code, but it seems ambiguous. A better, more applicable place might be college handbooks. Stephen will bring the draft statement to EC and discuss with them as to whether it should go into academic policy, the Faculty Code, or be sent to college deans to put into faculty handbooks. Another option may be to have Faculty Senate vote on a code amendment to require the deans to incorporate the language into the faculty handbooks, similar to what was done with the college budget committee language last spring. Regardless, input from EC is needed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next meeting: February 7, 2020 1:00 p.m., Barge 410