

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Annual Report of the Educational Policy Committee to Faculty Council
January 16, 2009

Membership:

David Bevevino (Undergraduate Student, 2009); Andrea Biddle (Health Policy; At-Large, 2011); Beverly Foster (Nursing; At-Large, 2011); Donna Gilleskie (Economics; At-Large, 2010); Stuart Macdonald (Political Science; At-Large, 2010); Lisa Norberg (Academic Affairs Library; At-Large, 2010); Bobbi Owen (College of Arts and Sciences; ex-officio); Andrew J. Perrin (Chair; Sociology; At-Large, 2009); Alice Poehls (University Registrar, ex-officio); Gwendolyn Sancar (Biochemistry and Biophysics; At-Large, 2009); Eliot Spencer (Graduate Student, 2009); Kevin Stewart (Geological Sciences; At-Large, 2009); Cecil Wooten (Classics; At-Large, 2011).

Meetings:

The Educational Policy Committee (EPC) met monthly in fall semester: September 10, October 15, November 12, and December 10. Meetings were 90 minutes in length and held from 8:30-10:00 am in a conference room of the Davis Library. The first meeting of spring semester was held January 14, 9:00-10:30, in the same location. Future meetings in spring semester are scheduled for 9:00-10:30 am in 219 Davis Library on the following dates: February 11, March 18, April 8, and May 6, 2009. Minutes of meetings are posted on the Faculty Council website.

Committee Charge:

“The committee is concerned with those matters of educational policy and its implementation as to which the Faculty Council possess legislative powers by delegation from the General faculty under Article II of the Code. The committee’s function is advisory to the Faculty Council... (article 4.6, Faculty Code of University Governance).”

Summary of Activities:

During the fall, 2008, semester, the EPC took the following actions:

- 1.) Considered and approved the College of Arts and Sciences' request to convert the existing AB (*Artium Baccalaureatus*) degree to the more current BA (Bachelor of Arts).
- 2.) Discussed plans by student government to sponsor a grading-pattern data scheme based on publicly available data.
- 3.) Recommended that the Provost fund an exploratory study of the Achievement Index (AI) during 2009-2011. The Provost has subsequently denied funding for this effort.
- 4.) Reviewed and discussed the activities and decisions of the newly-formed Priority Registration Advisory Committee (PRAC).
- 5.) Considered, discussed, and offered recommendations (twice) on issues surrounding students withdrawing from regular and summer terms when they are not passing their classes.
- 6.) Considered and discussed (twice) the Graduate School's Continuous Enrollment Policy proposal. Conditionally approved the concept of the proposal.
- 7.) Analyzed and reported on grading patterns as required by our charter; a full report prepared by the Grading subcommittee is attached.
- 8.) At the request of Disability Services, discussed concerns about students with

disabilities being unable to maintain full-time student status. EPC did not endorse offering full-time status to such students, but remains open to measures designed to provide University services to them more seamlessly.

- 9.) Considered and approved (with modifications) requests for transcript comments from the Business School's BSBA program and the Robertson Scholars program.

Because this report takes place so early in the semester, we anticipate further action on these issues, particularly the grading report, during the spring. There will be a separate report to the Faculty Council about the PRAC later in the spring.

Prepared by Andrew J. Perrin, EPC Chair, and approved by EPC January 14, 2009.