

California State University, Stanislaus
University Educational Policies Committee
December 6, 2002

Present: D. Demetrulias, R. Esau, M. Estrella, R. Floyd, E. Hall, M. Jaasma, P. Peters, S. Phillips,
K. Stone, A. Wagner, C. Watkins
Guests: L. Feldman, L. Johnson, J. Klein, A. Petrosky

- I. **Call to Order.** K. Stone called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved as distributed.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of November 22, 2002, were approved as distributed.
- IV. **Announcements/Reports.** K. Stone reported that the New Grading Option resolution is currently being discussed at Academic Senate. The grading option is for remediation courses only. The premise is that the grades will not count toward the overall GPA. There is a Remedial Grading Option meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2002, 9:00-10:00 a.m. M. Thompson has been invited to attend.

The Off-Campus/Distance Learning Subcommittee Composition has been submitted to the Academic Senate as a first reading item. The recommended composition of the OCDL subcommittee included one student representative, with voting rights. The UEPC affirms that there be a student representative with voting rights on the subcommittee.

- V. **Old Business**
 - A. **Renaming "Applied Studies" to "Professional Leadership."** Discussion will be deferred for possible renaming of Applied Studies until the consultation process has been completed and a recommendation has been forwarded to the UEPC for approval. The consultation process is to include all faculty who teach courses in the Applied Studies program.
 - B. **Faculty Center Associate for Assessment of Student Learning.** Following discussion, the UEPC advocates amending the qualifications listed on the position announcement for the Faculty Center Associate for Assessment of Student Learning to reflect the potential need for seeking extramural funding (through the CSU system and other extramural funding opportunities). This position is to serve as an advocate for assessment, bringing forth proposals in support of the campus-wide efforts to secure extramural funding for assessment of student learning. The UEPC recommends that the search move forward once the issue of resources available for the position has been resolved. K. Stone will send a memorandum to the SEC with the noted recommendations.
 - C. **UEPC Task Force Report on Globalization.** Deferred.
 - D. **Principles of Assessment Document.** Deferred.
 - E. **Guidelines for Academic Collaboration Between CSU Stanislaus-Stockton and San Joaquin Delta College.** Deferred until a response from the SEC has been received.

- F. Proposal for the First Year Experience.** Discussion continued surrounding the First Year Experience Proposal. The UEPC continued to voice concerns over the incompleteness of the proposal. The rationale is missing from the proposal. There are no measurable outcomes identified in the proposal. What are the criteria for declaring it a successful program? Will the program continue while it is being assessed? Following discussion it was moved by R. Floyd, seconded by M. Jaasma, and voted unanimously to request (1) a more refined document that addresses the concerns raised from the various faculty governance committees (UEPC and FBAC); (2) sufficient lead time for careful review of the complete proposal; (3) sufficient lead time for clarification, discussion, and consultation; and (4) the proposal be reviewed and seek approval through the formal budget process within academic affairs.

VI. New Business

- A. Course Prefix for Agricultural Studies.** Following discussion it was moved by A. Wagner, seconded by C. Watkins, and voted unanimously to approve the AGST course prefix for Agricultural Studies.
- B. Applied Studies Program – Online Course Offerings.** L. Feldman, L. Johnson, and A. Petrosky joined the UEPC meeting to discuss the offering of on-line courses through University Extended Education. L. Feldman expressed the following concerns:

There is a culture among deans of UEE that would lower academic standards because of the focus on making money.

Structures are in place for program and course approval and for the hiring of faculty, but these are not always being adhered to by UEE.

Firm academic standards and criteria for the courses offered through UEE should be developed by UEPC, particularly for courses offered through distance learning.

To ensure integrity of distance education courses when student identity is more difficult, 1) all distance learning courses should require students to take tests – not just papers; 2) tests should be proctored; 3) students should be required to provide picture identification; 4) courses should be structured in such a way that if the student failed the test, the student fails the course.

It is imperative for the faculty to control the academic curriculum.

For the Applied Studies program, UEE has given several wrong impressions to the general public through its advertisements. In its publicity UEE has at least twice used the title Professional Leadership for the program, but Professional Leadership is not the name of the program. UEE has said that the the major is available totally online, which is false. Only a portion of the courses needed to complete the Applied Studies major are available in distance learning formats, and only some of these are available online. UEE publicity has implied that completing the major completes the bachelor's degree, which is false. UEE publicity has falsely implied that the Applied Studies program is available only through UEE and is not a regular program available on campus, which is also false. The publicity

for this program has been done without permission of or consultation with the academic leader of the program.

A. Petrosky reported that he was asked to put together business courses that could be offered as certificates in agricultural management. The idea was brought to the College of Business Administration solely as a self-contained certificate program. Non-credit certificate programs are approved by the department chair, the college/curriculum committee, the dean, and UEE. The courses are currently being offered independently through UEE and not as part of the original certificates in agricultural management which the courses were designed for.

Once the courses are approved, does UEE have control of them? If faculty are not teaching the courses, does UEE have the authority to instruct? A. Petrosky suggested that there should be right of refusal and then the opportunity to instruct the course brought to the department chair for offering by some other faculty member in the department. L. Feldman would like a firm policy on using active University faculty members to teach these courses.

L. Johnson reported that UEE was offering an accounting course which the accounting faculty knew nothing about. A non-business person might find the description of the course to be similar to that of a current 3 unit Financial Accounting course. The cost for the UEE course is fairly nominal, perhaps \$77. UEE offers courses without consultation with the departments most closely associated with the topic matter. UEE has offered several courses which make reference to accounting and/or financial statements in their titles or descriptions and several courses which refer to finance. A participant in such a class might reasonably expect that the course had been developed and/or approved by the Department of Accounting and Finance. However, all the department knows about the course is what is read in the UEE catalog. The department doesn't know who is teaching the courses, or what their qualifications might be. Faculty members in most departments are concerned about the quality of any offerings with which they may be associated in the public mind, and would appreciate having oversight of these courses.

Following discussion, UEPC will review the UEPC Task Force Report when it becomes available and determine next steps in addressing the academic and curricular issues associated with offerings via UEE.

VII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randi Esau
Recording Secretary

