

Senate Committee on Educational Policy

-Minutes-

September 24, 1986

Members present: Mary Young, Robert Myers, Naomi Scheman, John Wallace (ex officio), Marvin Mattson, Crystal Hanscome, Leisa Knych, Susan Collison, Patricia Thomas (staff), Gretchen Kreuter (ex officio), Andrew Collins (chair), Lawrence Goodman, Sheila Corcoran, James Moller

Guests: Barbara Wolfe and Lael Gatewood

Implementation Task Force on Undergraduate Education

John Wallace, chair, stated that the charge to the Task Force is to set priorities and develop plans for implementing the recommendations of five planning documents. He has asked SCEP to provide some basic recommendations on liberal education distribution requirements, possibly covering such issues as appropriate review and revising and monitoring of the requirements. Specifically, he requested SCEP to identify what needs to be done on distribution requirements, determining how to build scope into the program by developing students' skills and providing active learning experiences and defining the extent to which the University would confine the variety of subjects available to meet the distribution requirements. He would also like to have some basic recommendations for curriculum and advising and instructions on how to monitor the CLE distribution requirements.

It was also pointed out in discussion that there is a perception problem with "Commitment to Focus." There is a basic misconception that because undergraduate enrollment will be decreased under "Commitment to Focus," there is a deemphasis on undergraduate education. This is not so. By reducing the numbers of students, the quality of education should improve. John Wallace asked SCEP to be aware of this public relations problem during the year and to offer advice on the issue.

Subcommittee on Information Systems

Dr. Lael Gatewood, chair, and Dr. Virginia Wolfe described the work the subcommittee was doing and the need for full committee status in the University Senate. A structure allowing interaction between the various information systems needs to be designed, and a governance process monitoring the system needs to be established. The Senate Consultative Committee has asked SCEP to determine whether the Senate governance system is the place to deal with computing issues and to conclude its work on the issue by the end of winter quarter. Robert Myers has been appointed the new student representative to the subcommittee.

Future SCEP Agenda Items

Andrew Collins said SCEP would be reviewing the report of the Special Committee on Minority Programs in Support of Commitment to Focus, evaluating college honors programs, and discussing additional developments with the Special Committee on Unified and Increased Preparation Standards.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Thomas
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Administrative Fellow

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