

Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
 -Minutes-  
 October 16, 1986

Members Present: Mary Young, Ian Maitland, Crystal Hanscome, Leisa Knych, Lawrence Goodman, Gretchen Kreuter (ex officio), Naomi Scheman, Roland Guyotte, Andrew Collins (chair), Patricia Thomas (staff), Susan Collison, Robert Meyer

Guest: Patricia Dean

Minutes: The minutes were approved as amended.

Announcements: Andrew Collins explained the difficulty of accommodating all the schedules and establishing a common time for SCEP meetings. He hopes that by alternating the meeting times on Thursdays and providing comprehensive minutes, everyone can participate and keep informed. This schedule will be during the fall quarter only, and maybe something else can be arranged for the rest of the year.

? The Honors Program discussion, scheduled on today's agenda, has been postponed because the program is undergoing changes.

Liberal Education Requirements

Andrew Collins explained that SCEP has been mandated by the Senate to review the liberal education requirements and determine how they should be met. John Wallace, chair of the Implementation Task Force on Undergraduate Education, has also asked SCEP to play a role in the development of proposals for the Task Force by focusing on liberal education requirements.

Gretchen Kreuter provided some historical background on distribution requirements and explained the current status of the requirements. She stated that the Implementation Task Force was considering developing six curricular tracks students could choose from to meet distribution requirements. This would allow flexibility for colleges and students while providing a common liberal education experience for all students.

During discussion several questions were raised which SCEP should consider:

1. How much variation is there across colleges in construing these guidelines?
2. Do the current liberal education requirements provide an adequate common educational experience to students at the University of Minnesota?
3. Is the current practice of permitting a wide range of alternatives for fulfilling each distribution requirement consistent with assuring a common educational experience?
4. Should more emphasis be placed on a writing component?  
     An advanced writing experience?  
     An experience in their area?

5. Is the current system for assuring implementation of liberal education requirements appropriate for application across the units of the University? Is this system currently functioning adequately?

A subcommittee has been formed to gather information, focus the issues, and make recommendations to SCEP. Leisa Knych and Susan Collison are the student members.

Morse-Amoco Awards

Andrew Collins asked Mary Young to preside over this part of the meeting. Patricia Dean stated that it was the desire of last year's committee to extend more attention to the winners of the award and to promote the presence of excellent teaching on campus. Three recommendations were presented. Lawrence Goodman said it was a mistake to designate winners as Morse-Amoco Professors because this implies it is an endowed chair, and it isn't. He suggested it is better to take an alternative approach and star the individual names in the catalog.

The following recommendation, as amended, was passed:

The 1986 Morse-Amoco Awards Selection Committee recommends that any faculty member who has received the Morse-Amoco Award since its inception in 1965 and who is still on the University of Minnesota faculty be designated a Morse-Amoco recipient by an asterisk and that the title be used in the University directory, appropriate college catalog, and other official University correspondence for the duration of the recipient's academic career at the University of Minnesota. No annual remuneration will accompany the title.

Crystal Hanscome will be the student representative on the Morse-Amoco Awards Selection Committee.

Rick Heydinger will speak on the graduation rate issue at the November 20 meeting. Also, representatives from Morris will speak on their core curriculum. The meeting will be at 2:15-4:00 p.m. in room 626 of the Campus Club.

On October 30, there will be two meetings (9:15-11:00 a.m. or 2:15-4:00 p.m.) so everyone will have a chance to respond to the interim report of the Implementation Task Force. The meetings will be in 608 of the Campus Club. You need to attend only one of the meetings.

PT:alp