

Minutes of EPC 3/12/97
Approved 3/26/97
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 12, 1997 (Meeting #12)

Present: Tammy Koob, Linda Rochford, Mary Jean Menzel, Terrie Shannon, Ann Bergeron, Stephanie Kjonaas, Donny Ness, Paula Pollock, Ken Risdon, Bob Carlson, Bilin Tsai, Tom Isbell, Steve Castleberry, Penny Morton, Art Johnson, Vince Magnuson, Steve Hedman, Chris Carroll
Guests: Karl Johnson, Ed Kawczynski

Meeting came to order at 3:00 PM.

Motion to approve minutes of previous meeting was made and seconded.
Minutes were approved as written.

1. SHOULD AA DEGREE SATISFY ALL HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN THE SAME WAY THAT IT SATISFIES THE UMD LIBERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS?

Karl Johnson has been saying no, it shouldn't. Having an AA degree does mean that UMD's liberal education requirements are automatically assumed to be satisfied. The Admissions Policies Subcommittee of EPC advises that the AA degree not satisfy the high school preparation requirements.

A second issue - in Fall 99 transfer students who have even one deficiency in the high school preparation requirements will not be admissible to UMD. (Fall 97 for new high school students.) Some schools are allowing satisfaction of their liberal education requirements just based on the number of credits transferred into the school rather than based on the completion of an AA degree.

There was some discussion on these topics. Two-year institutions can provide courses to fulfill high school deficiencies, so there is no need for UMD to cater to individuals with deficiencies. There is some concern whether an AA degree justifiably meets our current liberal education requirements, and perhaps that should be examined more closely. It's important that high schools be informed about the preparation requirements. UMD is working hard on that.

There are two types of exceptions requested by students regarding high school preparation standards:

A. "I don't have the requirements satisfied" - in this case, holds are put on student registrations after they have completed 90 credits without fulfilling the preparation standards.

B. "I was admitted with deficiencies and now I need to graduate, but I still haven't fulfilled the preparation standards." What do we do? Delay graduation to force students to take a remedial course, or overlook the deficiencies?

A proposal to change the point at which registration holds are established to 45 credits rather than 90 credits was discussed. This would force colleges to go through the process of granting one-quarter exceptions to the holds for an additional year, with the hope that attention would be drawn to the problem before a student neared graduation.

Current policy is to allow exceptions to the rules on deficiencies in high school preparation standards even after the "zero tolerance" rules go into effect, so this problem will not disappear completely. The assumption is, however, that as years go by, the number of incoming students with deficiencies will go down. The problem is not the rule, but the enforcement.

EPC asked for a report organized by collegiate units on the number of students who have deficiencies in the high school preparation standards before making any recommendation on changing the policies in effect.

2. CRITICAL MEASURES SUBCOMMITTEE

Passed out handouts showing how UMD is doing at meeting some of the critical measures goals.

3. ED KAWCZYNSKI REPORTED ON ADMISSIONS

"Money talks." While UMD has a decent scholarship program, we're getting blown out of the water by competitors. Until recently, our most prestigious scholarship, the President's Award, totaled \$2000 spread over two years, and other academic awards were for at most a few hundred dollars each. Today the President's Award is \$3000, with academic awards starting at \$1000. UMD is using "Financial Aid Leveraging" looking at high need and high merit to decide how to allocate scholarship dollars. We need to be more competitive in our scholarship offerings to meet the critical measure relating to "HSR in the top third of the class" goal. The critical measure goal relating to students of color is limited by our geographic locale. UMD is actively recruiting students in Chicago and

other areas where more students of color are available.

Other things UMD's registrar's office is doing:

- new staff for new talent and enthusiasm
- accepts SAT scores for admissions decisions
- going high tech with on-line application by end of this year
- CD recruiting device will be in place within a year
- video production is under consideration
- improving turnaround time on applications
- considering deeper questions on application, such as an essay
- market UMD's unique characteristics (connected campus, etc.)
- new theme "Lake Effect" for next 4 year cycle of recruiting
- Ed signs all admit, reject, and referral letters
- all admitted students are now called by admissions on the phone
- 95.1% of admitted students currently have met HS prep standards
- no admitted student has more than 2 deficiencies
- by Fall 97 all middle schools in MN will have posters

describing the preparation standards

- reception for HS counselors, invited here to see what we're

doing

- plan a community college reception
- improving admissions web site
- producing freebie T-shirts for HS counselors, etc. for

advertising

- survey developed for matriculating and non-matriculating

students

Question: Why are students hesitant to come to the University of Minnesota from outside the state? Answer: we purchase names of students from all surrounding states and recruit them. Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) is a drawing card.

Question: What about training of the tour guides? Answer: Tours of this campus are hard because once you're inside all you see is indoors and the beauty of the environment is not seen. A slide show and video are being developed. T-shirts for the guides are being developed. It's a tough job, but it's being addressed.

3. ALL UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

ECCA has been asked to remove stipulation that 45 extra credits be completed to receive a second degree at UMD. There is confusion with the requirement that 45 credits of residence be completed as stated in the bulletin. A clarifying letter will be resubmitted to ECCA.

A second question arose regarding a student who has already received a UMD degree and who wants to come back for a second degree at UMD. The statement to be approved by ECCA would also apply to such a student, that is the 45 extra credits would not be required. This would apply to all students whether they've gotten a UMD degree previously or not.

4. COURSE DEFINITIONS FOR SEMESTER CONVERSION

Motion made and seconded to approve the material from the Sems sub committee on the "90 series" of course definitions.

Discussion: There are no current limitations on quarter course numbers. Goal is to have consistency on numbering of commonly offered courses in the system. There is variation on what is the correspondence between credits and hours in internships.

Because of the questions raised, a motion was made and seconded to table the motion to approve the "90 series" course definitions. The motion to table passed, and the original motion was tabled.

Adjourned at about 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Carroll

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Last Revised on 01/27/98 by FS