

COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning

MEETING DATE: Friday, September 11, 2020 (WebEx)

PRESIDING: Mark Bowler, Chair

ATTENDANCE

Regular members: Heidi Bonner, Mark Bowler, John Collins, Bryna Coonin, Michael Dingfelder, Timothy Jenks, Jean-Luc Scemama, Michelle Wallen.

Ex-officio Members (with vote): Cynthia Bellacero, Leigh Cellucci, Ruth Little, Tom McConnell, Jason Yao, Madi Stamper.

Also present (without vote): Rachel Baker

Call to order: 1:00 pm

AGENDA ITEM #1: Approval of April 17, 2020 and August 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #2: SACS Requirements and Educational Policy

Unit: IPAR

Representative: Cyndi Bellacero

DISCUSSION: Bellacero reviewed sections of the SACS documentation that affect EPPC.

ACTION TAKEN: Informational, no action required.

AGENDA ITEM #3: EPPC Role in Financial Exigency

Representative: Mark Bowler

DISCUSSION: Bowler reviewed ECU Faculty Manual, Part IX, Section I, Subsection VII

ACTION TAKEN: Informational, no action required at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Discussion Regarding the Proposed Revisions to the APR Guidelines

Representative: Mark Bowler

DISCUSSION: This is a continuation of a lively discussion begun by the 2019-2020 EPPC membership.

The proposed revisions were brought to EPPC by Dr. Gemperline because EPPC does have purview over the guidelines and Faculty Senate will trust that EPPC has vetted any changes before forwarding the new document to them. Concerns voiced by EPPC include terminology, as the words programs/departments/units are used inconsistently, rendering parts of the document unclear. Section 4 (Research and Scholarly Mission, in which EPPC is asked to identify the research and scholarly strengths within a 'unit' using comparisons to other institutions) gave rise to considerable discussion. Currently we do not have an institutional-level measure of research, which IPAR indicated was one reason for this change to the APR Guidelines, but EPPC members suggested this is more a responsibility of the Deans, not EPPC. Broader input from faculty and administration is needed before EPPC can vote on the changes as currently presented to the Committee. The issues raised and discussed were serious and far-reaching in nature.

ACTION TAKEN: Mark Bowler and Tom McConnell will work together on the change document to help EPPC focus on appropriate next steps to move us closer to a consensus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRs currently underway are moving along well. No problems were reported by EPPC reps assigned to these program reviews.

Meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Friday October 9, 2020 1:00 p.m. via WebEx

Respectfully submitted,

Bryna Coonin, Secretary
September 30, 2020