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M E M O R A N D U M

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TO: Educational Policies and Programs Committee  
FROM: Rick Ford (secretary du jour)  
DATE: February 21, 2020  
SUBJ: EPPC MINUTES February 20, 2020, Kendall Hall 207, 2:30 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Adamian (Seipel), Allen, Altfeld-Fisher, Bailey, Buffardi, Connolly, DeForest, Ford, Grassian, Gray, Gruber, Hammer, Horst, Lau, Medic, Miller, Paiva, Peterson (Sousa), Ramirez, Schartmueller, Shepherd, Widgay, Wyrick

Absent: Hostetter-Lewis, Millard

The meeting was called to order at 2:32.

Minutes for February 6, 2020 Minutes were approved without any changes. [\[Attachment 1\]](#)

2. Agenda for February 20, 2020 was approved without changes.

3. Action Item: Suspend Option in Recreation Therapy

Guest Presenter: Dr. Laura McLachlin and Dr. Morgan Geddie, Department of Recreation, Hospitality, and Parks Managements.

McLachlin and Morgan reiterated their proposal and the highlights of the rationale for the suspension. TT are required to oversee the program due to accreditation issues. Dean Tretheway presented a thorough rationale for this suspension.

**The action item was approved.**

4. Action Item: New Option in Criminal Justice in the Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Guest Presenter: Dr. Andy Potter, Program Coordinator, Master of Public Administration.

Miller took over as chair during this discussion. Potter reiterated the proposal and reported other programs had enrollments of 12 to 30. Potter also presented the slight adjustments that had been recommended at the introduction stage. Potter fielded several questions from the committee and his answers did not result in any additional changes.

**The action item was approved.**

5. Discussion Item: General Education Minors Part 1: Overview, Broad Discussion, and the following draft GE Minors:

Agriculture, Food, and the Environment California:  
People, Place, and Cultures Equity, Ethics, and Policy  
Global Studies, Gender and Sexuality

Guest Presenter: Dr. Jason Nice, Chair, Curriculum Advisory Board

### General discussion

Chair Allen explained that this is a discussion item and went over the 5 -year review that recommended more thematic coherence in the minors and revitalized or discontinued. Chair Allen also reviewed other GE presentations and recommendations presented. Allen said she had some topics to talk about that she would use to open the discussion.

Topics:

1. Criteria for selecting courses
2. Feedback on decision for 3 lower-division areas
3. 50% guiding principle question
4. Limits of courses per “stone”?
5. Single course not allowed in multiple minors

Before going into the topics Nice made a presentation recapping the consultation timeline and the call for courses and how the minor areas were selected.

1. Criteria: Allen described some criteria that she perceived was used and then Nice went over additional criteria. The rough description of the minors were mounted on the web in October and linked to the call for courses sent to chairs.
2. Three Area Restriction: The issue of restricting the lower division to 3 areas and the relationship to coherence and the associated EM was raised and discussed. Jason’s thoughts were solicited. More than three received support from members of the committee. Jason responded that one reason for only three was to respond to student requests for simplicity. Course capacity was also brought up as an issue. Selection of areas was based on existing GE courses in the pathway, coherence of new proposed courses, and inclusion of USD or GC or W. It was noted that there are not 3 areas, but three courses in the lower division. It was suggested that multiple areas provided breadth and repeated areas indicated it was not a “3-area” policy. Student members of EPPC said that this issue will be brought to the Student Academic Senate for feedback.
3. Regarding the 50% rule, it was expressed by some EPPC members that this rule seemed arbitrary. Enforcement and the inconsistency with other campus practice was brought up. There is double-counting that goes on frequently outside of GE. What problem are we trying to fix? It was expressed that without the restriction, courses in some colleges might be favored. Also, perhaps the rule could add to the cohesiveness of the minor. Special attention to the application of the rule was highlighted by discussing the decisions on course selections.
4. Limits of courses per “stone”. Jason reported there was no guiding principle calling for one course per stone (boxes), but the single course situation arose due to USD, GC, W issues.
5. Restriction that a single course cannot be in multiple areas. It was explained by Nice that it was thought that a single course could not exhibit strong enough coherence and consistency and focus to be included in two different minors. Some on the committee thought it was an ok idea, others thought it was an unnecessary restriction and that single courses might qualify rarely, but possibly could be appropriate in two different minors.

Senate Chair Ferrari asked if these rules could be created by CAB without oversight. Would EPPC and Senate be weighing in on these? A “guiding principal” is different from a hard and fast “rule”.

Knowing that the principles are general and flexible, rather than hard and fast, might address this concern.

We then turned to specific feedback regarding the draft proposed minors

**Agriculture, Food, and the Environment:** Committee input was generally favorable. It was suggested that the more detailed description of the minor found on the GE webpage be linked to the proposal. Nice responded that not all of the elements in the current description of the minor might be evident in the proposed courses.

**California: People, Place, and Cultures:** Nice reported that this does not overlap 50% with any other minor (like California Studies). It was offered that the outcomes once articulated that they also be distinct from any other minor. The conversation included revisiting the “50% guiding principle”. It was stated that currently roughly 10% of our students are enrolled in a pathway minor. There was discussion about the terminology of “far-northern California”. Regarding MGMT XXX, the recommendation is that both courses would be recommended if the new course is in place.

**Equity, Ethics, and Policy:** There were comments made about specific courses and their names. It was noted some names needed correcting.

**Global Studies:** Nice reported on some of the consultation outside of CAB that went into the development of this minor. It was mentioned that this new minor was a combination of two pathway minors and questions regarding coherence were brought up. It was questioned that “any foreign language course” may be too flexible. It seemed the title did not properly reflect the courses proposed. Maybe “International Studies” or “Global and Regional Studies” could be considered. Concerns were expressed about this alternative. It was mentioned that the description of the minor on the web included “arts” but there was none represented in the minor.

**Gender and Sexuality:** CAB did not formally approve this minor yet and is looking for feedback. Nice reported the 50% guideline was a problem, due to the minor in Sexual Diversity. It was suggested that perhaps a restriction could be made that students can’t earn both. There was general support for a minor and some felt the 50% guideline should not impede the decisions. It is possible that WMST 275W and other courses could be removed from the MCGS major.

6. Announcements -- Study abroad fair next week.

7. Other: FASP is requesting a member from EPPC for a student conduct and grievances subcommittee. Annie will “think about it.”

8. Adjourn – meeting was adjourned at 5:07 by chair Allen.