A&S Education Policy Committee  
November 20, 2014

1) Preliminary Remarks/Actions

The meeting opened with welcoming remarks; and, the review and approval of the minutes from the EPC meeting of October 23, 2014.

2) Subcommittee Personnel and Tasks

The first order of business was the assignment of EPC members to separate Subcommittees:

Academic Subcommittee: Chris Maxwell, Chair; Jonathan Baldwin; Kathy Dunn; Rudi Hon; Eve Spangler; Mary Troxell; Kara Naccarelli; Clare Dunsford; Michael Martin

Honors Subcommittee: Gerald Easter, Chair; Amy Boesky; Luke Jorgenson; Killian Buechler; Joseph Maimone; Thomas McGuinness; William Petri; Akua Sarr; Hagop Toghramadijian

3) Report on Medical Humanities Minor (MHM) - Pilot Program

The second order of business was a discussion of the ongoing pilot program for a Medical Humanities Minor. Amy Boesky led the discussion, highlighting the early findings and fielding questions on the next phase of the MHM.

Initial indicators for the MHM were most positive. Strong student demand had led to 110 applicants from across the A&S departments (75 enrolled; 35 wait-listed). Moreover, MHM attracted students of high achievement, including those who had won academic awards. The students showed enthusiasm and initiative for MHM activities, including reading groups and an undergraduate conference. MHM also attracted interest from individuals on campus and from the community, who expressed an interest in participation as speakers. Finally, MHM showed potential as a valuable complement to the interdisciplinary and practical objectives of the core renewal process. More specifically, MHM helped to reveal the existence of professional opportunities for Humanities students.

Questions focused on the practical aspects of the program moving forward. These included: keeping the enrollment in line with faculty and departmental resources; maintaining a balanced distribution of students across the departments; establishing criteria to assess the realization of goals of MHM; creating a future MHM “alumni network”; and, overcoming the curriculum obstacles that might
prevent SON students from participating. A full MHM, taking into consideration the questions and comments, report was due in December.

4) Closing Remarks

Before the meeting adjourned, members were reminded of the dates for the Spring semester EPC meetings. (1) Feb 5th – Academic Subcommittee was scheduled to report; (2) April 16th - Honors Subcommittee was scheduled to report on Language Proficiency Requirement.

In Attendance:

Michael Martin
Kara Naccarrelli
Rudolph Hon
Amy Boesky
Gerald Easter
Mary Troxell
Thomas McGuinness
Luke Jorgensen
Hagop Toghramadjian
John Baldwin
Clare Dunsford
Akua Sarr
Joseph Maimone
Eve Spangler
Christopher Maxwell
Gregory Kalschuer, SJ

Submitted by: Gerald Easter