**Committee on Academic Programs (CAP)**

**Minutes for March 23, 2011**

**ATTENDANCE:**

B. Chiang, F. Cooper, K. Cugliotta, C. Fisher, B. Franco, A. Joshi, R. Kamber, J. Karsnitz, B. Leake, C. Liebars, P.McElroy, T. Pavlovsky, M. Pulimood , S. Shestakow , B. Tellis-Tomsky.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Minutes**

The minutes of February 23, 2011 were not available for review. They will be reviewed at the next meeting.

1. **Re-Charge on Student Evaluation of Teaching: Sub-Committee report**

The sub-committee reported that its work was again characterized by discussions of recurring questions around the intended use of the instrument, the appropriateness of items, and even validity and reliability of student feedback. Kamber added that the work of the sub-committee could be helped by the substantial literature base that speaks to issues related to the legitimacy of student feedback. Tomsky agreed to supply the sub-committee and the other CAP members with the documents from the work of the 2009 sub-committee that address some of these concerns. Additionally, Deb Frank, sub-committee chair, will be asked to adjust meeting schedule to facilitate participation of more sub-committee members.

1. **Charge on Academic Load**

As requested, Kamber prepared a revised draft of the Preliminary Recommendations on Academic Load document. CAP supported the revised document and approved moving this document forward in the governance process. Liebars agreed to move this document forward and schedule open fora on it.

1. **Charge on Graduate Program in Women and Gender Studies**

CAP received an expanded/revised proposal. During the discussion of the revised proposal, CAP raised additional questions including the need for clarification of the potential role of the Graduate Programs Council. CAP requested that Liebars ask Steering about the role of GPC. Also, CAP expressed the possible need to invite a representative from WGS to attend a CAP meeting to respond to any questions that might remain. CAP decided to delay the WGS invitation until Steering clarifies the role of GPC.

1. **Charge on Repeating Courses**

At the request of CAP, Cooper provided additional data on course repetitions. Review of the data led CAP to conclude that the current policy seems to be working as evidenced by the dearth of apparent abuses of the policy as it exists. Although CAP expressed interest in securing empirical evidence that supports the EOF issues raised by Dean Rifkin in his memo to Steering, CAP requested that Liebars generate a draft of a Preliminary Recommendations document in support of the current policy on repeating courses. Cooper stated that he would attempt to secure data related to Dean Rifkin’s comments about abuses of the policy to avoid assigning failing grades to EOF students in summer courses.

1. **New Charge on Course Withdrawal Policy**

Due to time limitations, this dialogue was very brief. However, Cooper provided data to support the initial CAP discussion of this charge and CAP cited the potential student advisement value of the data on withdrawals.

1. **New Charge on Academic Integrity; New Charge on Academic Dismissal Policy; New Charge on International Business Program Changes; New Charge on Russian Studies Minor; New Charge on Absence and Attendance Policies**

Due to time limitations, these items were not discussed. They will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:55 PM**