

Academic Planning Council Minutes
Wednesday, October 16, 2019
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
3609 Engineering Hall

Attending: M. Arnold, V. Bier, E. Borbely, L. Debaillie, G. Harrington, E. Harris, G. Nellis, S. Palechek,
M. Romero, I. Robertson, O. Schmitz, B. Van Veen, C. Walters
Absent: C. Brace, B. Murphy, D. Noyce, D. Thelen, A. Whitehorse

Announcements; Approval of September Minutes

Motion to approve September minutes passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Appointment

A new APC representative from BME will join this year and so it was agreed that the CBE representative will serve as vice-chair for AY19-20 and then as chair in AY20-21.

Informational Only/Automatic Consent: APCRC Minutes

Approved

Proposed new degree: MS Information in the ISchool

ISyE would like to discuss this proposal. Jeff Linderoth, chair of ISyE, to reply to Mike Arnold. Motion to recommend providing a letter of support passed unanimously pending ISyE's approval. APC should send a recommendation to the dean's office.

Discontinuation of Technical Japanese Master's Named Option

Motion to recommend the discontinuation of the Technical Japanese Master's Named Option approved unanimously.

Diversity and Inclusion Discussion

CoE is considering requiring diversity statements from applicants for faculty positions. The Equity and Diversity Committee was tasked with researching and providing recommendations on these statements (see document entitled "EDC_HiringRecs2019")

Discussion comments:

- Is this a valuable part of an application? What does a good diversity statement look like?
- How is the statement evaluated? Rubrics would need to be developed.
- Needs to be consistent across college. Currently, some departments do require the statements; ISyE found that the statements were not useful as many were mere "boilerplate." CEE does eliminate applicants for further consideration that do not include a diversity statement.
- If statement is not included, is the candidate no longer eligible?

- Would diversity statements/efforts need to be considered in subsequent promotions/reviews?
- Some applicants may feel the need to identify when a diversity statement is required.
- If a diversity statement is not required, does that limit the pool of underrepresented applicants?
- Other downsides?

There is a wide variety across institutions regarding the requirement of diversity statements; Harvey Mudd and the Univ. of California System do require diversity statements and have developed evaluation rubrics.

Departments should discuss the value of requiring a diversity statement, the expectations of the statement and how it would be evaluated and used.

Climate Discussion

Following the reaction to the homecoming video, Ian met with a group of students. They relayed that the climate in CoE needs to improve; students do not feel welcomed and are often felt to feel stupid and not supported by faculty. A climate study is currently underway; the results should be available at the end of the year or early January. At this time, departments should not engage students regarding the climate issues; please wait until the survey is completed and analyzed. The college will need to provide a message and develop a policy around this issue; messages and policies need to be consistent with campus as well.

Additional comments from the discussion:

Faculty need to set the level of expectation in classes, labs and state these expectations.

Providing more concrete recommendations and practices that would help improve the climate would be helpful.

Students would appreciate faculty acknowledging an incident when it occurs. It would be helpful if the college crafted a message addressing the incident and distributed to all faculty.

Need to continue to raise awareness among colleagues that they are here to educate students and the importance of providing a welcoming, supportive and inclusive environment.

Named Options Discussions

Motion to recommend approval to name the traditional pooled master's program approved unanimously:

- Biomedical Engineering M.S. - Research
- Civil and Environmental Engineering, M.S. - Research
- Engineering Mechanics, M.S. - Research
- Industrial Engineering M.S. - Research
- Materials Science and Engineering, M.S. - Research
- Manufacturing Systems Engineering

Long-term Named Options Strategy:

Currently, some departments offer multiple named options. Campus would prefer to reduce the number of these subplans.

It was suggested that only two MS degrees be offered by departments:

- MS-research (traditional research, pooled program)
- MS-accelerated/professional (course-work only, non-pooled program)

APC agreed with this suggestion. Current named options will remain as is, unless enrollment decreases. If a more descriptive name would benefit marketing efforts, it can be used in naming the option.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 20

1:30 – 3:00pm

3609 Engineering Hall