

Senate Meeting
April 21, 2009

Present:

Allen Evans
Jim Tooke
Jeff Johnson
Rosemary Powers
Steve Tanner
Greg Monahan
Richard Croft
Peter Johnson
Molly Litchfield
Ruthi Davenport
DeAnna Timmerman
Ted Atkinson
Leandro Espinosa
Jodi Varon
Dan Mielke

Provost Jaeger
Dean Mueller
Dean Lauritzen
Dean Levine
Colleen Johnson
Dea Hoffman
Regina Braker
Steve Jenkins

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded to approve both sets of minutes – March 3, April 9 – with suggestions for minor grammatical corrections – April minutes were approved – March minutes will be voted on again after corrections are made

Question about whether we should include comments about the presidential candidates – may replace with general language that senate discussed strengths and weakness of candidates – pull off the web in the meantime

April 7 minutes approved unanimously
March minutes will be amended – Steve will work with Ken

EPCC

Colleen –
Most as a consent agenda – some new courses – list is posted on web

Discussion: What are faculty going to give up to teach a new course – is there room for these courses in faculty load

This is an issue of resources not an EPCC issue – when these changes come to EPCC, they've gone through a review process that ensures that the resources are there – so not looking for one-to one trade off

Michael –

we've had this discussion for a long time about whether or not the resource question get asked and answered at EPCC – now we can't afford to put EPCC at risk – the question has to be asked before it comes to EPCC – Deans communicate and tell Provost's council – these issues are taken care of ahead of time – so we don't approve curriculum that can't be enacted – a Dean would have made the case at the college level – not an issue at this point

Moved and seconded to approve consent agenda from EPCC – passes unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

Four items under action items

Two are AA degrees – Education and Administrative Management

Two Certificates – Education and Office Management

If you go to the links for AA, you'll see the form that has been developed by EPCC – looks like request for new minor and concentration – it lays out the parameters for the AA and the certificate – EPCC is not asking that the form be approved – it was constructed for its own use

Steve – AA degrees have been offered in the past, did the parameters change?

Colleen – there used to be an AA in General Studies – others were AS degrees – these two are new programs and have never been in existence in the past – these were formed to go along with AA degrees in the university system – 90 credits that satisfy general education requirements

Steve – Another question concerns the certificates – There are some that are in the pipeline that don't meet this requirement as far as credit range – what criteria were used to determine that credit range

Colleen – We didn't have anything to go on in terms of a past certificate or anything we could use as a map – Carol L. helped to put together the certificates in these two areas – EPCC did talk about the number of credits in certificates – seem to satisfy people – there is at least one, or more than one certificates that are working through College of A and S – some are substantially fewer number of credits than the ED certificate proposal – would like some discussion on that here – not asking for approval for credit ranges, but some

conversation about those parameters, especially about the certificate, is warranted – this is going to continue to be item of conversation – should it be credits – if so, what is the minimum number of credits – should it be based on courses – if so, what should that look like – this will be discussed at EPCC and can be discussed in senate as well – the two certificates being brought forward both comply with those parameters

Moved and seconded to approve the AA in Elementary Education

Discussion

Jeff – Recommends dealing with each one (AA and certificate proposals) separately – take comments for all four – we are living in extraordinary times so we have to do extraordinary things and have no quarrel with taking emergency actions to save the university – there appears to have been a short-circuiting of process – senate should have had discussion of AA degrees to determine if that was, in the senate’s judgment, a good idea – the senate should have discussed certificates and what they would look like (parameters) – then AA’s or certificates could have been designed in light of established parameters we’d all agreed to as a faculty – he understands the emergency – as an example, EPCC approved a certificate for Spanish for Health Care Professionals, then the college did, then the division – in backwards order in terms of process – if we approve an AA in ED, it sends the message that programs are now welcome to submit proposals for AA degrees or certificates

Marilyn – It would be nice to do process in a certain way – she would have loved to have had a discussion about AA degrees and certificates – the Provost has been sending out emails about AA degrees for months – could have discussed the generic wording – the reality is we have to rush on it – the Provost has made our case that we have a window of opportunity – we might be the only OUS institution to create these certificates and AA degrees – the reality is that in Union County, unemployment is almost at 20% – the discussion should have been about courses, not about the range of credits – accepts responsibility – they wish it could have happened

Dan – What logic was used to determine the credit hours for residency requirements – 12 in certificate and 24 in AA degree – how does this compare with residency requirements for minors – need to consider consistencies across degrees and programs – this discussion about AA degrees has been going on for at least five years – regardless of inconsistencies of procedure he supports having them – necessary tool for the university – whether we’re in crisis mode or not

Carol – When we talking about residency – looked at bachelors degree – percentage of credits at bachelors level – used the same percentage in the AA degree proposal

Greg – Eastern shouldn’t give out AA degrees – Maybe certificates are ok – would like to see data that says there are jobs out there and that someone who is now unemployed could come to Eastern, take these courses, get that certificate, and then somehow be able to get a job – We have a long history of being mistaken for a community college on the

west side – there are four year colleges that do grant AA degrees – don't see that the AA is going to get us anywhere – if it is an emergency, and we're talking about employing people, then maybe the certificates make sense – but the AA is a 90 hour program – two full years of hard work – no objection to the way is structured the AA's – it's the principle of offering it – no evidence there that we should be scaffolding into Bachelors degrees – students might take the AA degree and leave – it sends the wrong message and could hurt us in terms of resource allocation

Jodi – Question about the computation for the credits – wonder about the computation for the credits – wonder if program is being vended as a 60 credit program based on these credits – for example, two writing courses at 115 or higher in the AA Elementary Education degree, but those courses are 4 credits, not 3, so they'd have to take 8 credits, not 6 – I wonder if the cost of the program is being computed on credit numbers in this column

Carol – Credits are estimates and some credits may transfer – could put it six to eight – has to add up to 90 – credits are estimates – can transfer in credits that could be slightly different

Jodi – Similar opinion as Greg – certificates are useful in supporting an AA degree – in both the ED degree and the certificate, the threshold for writing courses is WR 115, which is a pre-college course – when we created that course we gave it a cosmetic number so it would seem like a college level course, but when you look at the Acu-Placer data about who goes into that course and how that course is structured, and what the outcomes for that course are – it's not a college-level course – so to say that a certificate in ED asks for WR 115, I couldn't support that – and the same is true for the AA in ED – if it were to say 121 or above, I would support that – It's like saying MATH 095 would be the appropriate math course

Carol – we could change to WR 121 – would have to take a prerequisite course

Jodi – WR 115 didn't use to count toward 180 credits

Peter – Some concerns as well – has to do with our identity crisis – our lack of what we envision the university being – we're making these decisions about an AA degree and certificates without an overarching clear vision of who we are – adding these impacts the mission – we need to have a conversation about our identity before we go about changing identity again

Leandro – The more options we have for students the better

DeAnna – What does the AA in Elementary Ed add that the certificate in Ed does not - other than Gen Ed credits – justifications are the same for AA and the certificate

Carol – Content preparation – there is a national standard for teachers – these would allow students to be making progress toward being better at your job of being a teacher –

depth of preparation – teachers have depth of content in AA over the first year of the certificate – this increases the employability of people looking for pre-k employment – gives them basic skills about children’s language and development – regulations are changing for Head Start teachers – by 2012 they have to have bachelors degree

Jeff – Another thing the AA has over the certificate - that it is a recognized credential – a worry about the certificate is what does it mean – all a certificate means is that an advisor would say you’ve passed the courses – there is no transcripting – AA guarantees transfer to any sister institution –

DeAnna – we don’t have a lab requirement – unless you have a lab requirement

Jeff - can we offer an AA that doesn’t meet OTM?

Carol – There is a difference between AAOT and AA degree

Jeff – That is a big problem – I think people would think an AA has bought them something within the system – how hard would it be to have that meet the 45 credits

Carol – the AA would meet the AAOT requirements – we haven’t taken this through AAOT process – but this AA proposal would meet those – we would have to vet it

Michael – the AAOT is not up to us – it is up to Community Colleges to approve it and it is a year-long process to approve

Steve – Can we arrange this so that we could create this as OTM – this AA proposal

Michael – I just want to say three quick things about this – I think this is something we should adopt - there are three reasons – it is Eastern’s legacy – we have offered AA degrees in the past – it only served 12 or so students per year – used to help students reach a benchmark – they would transfer or go on into a career – it was helpful in terms of retention to help students realize they could achieve an interim goal - Does it give them an exit – 65 % is an exit rate we’re experiencing – so we’re not doing very well without an AA degree in terms of retention – an AA would help us hold on to students a bit longer – they leave at end of freshman year – this is something to do to try and alleviate problems with retention - Work force issue in the county – we have been asked directly by TECH and by county commissioners about giving these people AA degrees – they recognize that over certificates – the reason is this: the work force money that comes to TECH and comes for displaced workers can only be used for specific degree-bearing work – they cannot take a course of action that doesn’t end with some sort of paper that says they completed a degree – the federal government will not support their education unless there is a particular target which is related to a work force possibility – TECH people have dozens of people who are qualified, who would meet admission standards that are interested in this area – this is an issue with our community – if we are going to be sluggish in this matter, we won’t be viewed as being a good partner with community that is being very generous in trying to support us – so in a way it is a social action that

you take as well in considering whether or not to do the AA degree – it is not just the microcosm of Easter - we are in a community – in a county – we are interconnected – you just had half a dozen community members go and spend a whole day in Salem testifying to get attention of legislators – there is a legacy – these degrees are on the books – because of the work force initiative issues that are serious and we should perform as partners – and it is value added – we will not be admitting anyone who is not qualified – these will be fully admitted students – we will not lower our standards – we will not have to create any more sections – this is an opportunity of adding to our ranks - the fourth issue is that enrollment is a serious problem – online enrollment has transcended by student credit hours on campus, so we must do things to enhance what we have on campus – this is a small technique – a small risk in terms of identity but what alternatives do you bring to the table

Greg – There are some legacies you want to keep and some you want leave behind – we don't want to be seen as a community college – it's great that those people lobbied for us – there are a lot of programs in the region – how will adding an AA help us

Ruthi – I would like to speak in favor of this – I think the faculty have given this a lot of thought – I think with the suggested changes from the different specific disciplines and that threshold in terms of writing is point well-taken – I've certainly seen that in ECED – I appreciate Jodi bringing that up - to address DeAnna's point, I think it does offer something more – it is a stepping stone – it is a benchmark – it all feeds in and applies to the MUD degree – it leads people down the path into CUESTE – I think it is of value

Dan – If we brought distance students in – is this degree going to be available to our students online

Carol - designed as on campus degree – students would have to be here - Some A and S courses might be available online

Molly – Community Colleges are growing – students are sitting on the fence about what they're going to do – this would be something students would want

Jeff – I think I'm going to vote in favor of this, but would really ask not just the ED program but the senate to insist that as AA's come forward that at the very least they meet the requirements of the OTM and that they are designed in such a way that we can start that process for AAOT on them – an AA degree does mean something about transferability – it is crucial that we provide our students something that will buy them something not just in the work force but in their educational career – for the senate this should be a precondition for any AA

Michael – Let me offer a compromise – what if we could agree to a pilot of these AA's and certificates – gather some information - be of service to the region and the community – and then pledge to revisit this and bring these back after a two year window – bring them back for the general discussion – I'm really concerned about the community partnership aspect – the first stroke of this, when I offered this to the Provost Council,

and I had to stick my neck out on this – I had to go to the Chancellor, legislators, and the governor’s office to get them to pay attention – finally they said this makes sense – we are trying to serve our community – this is a very narrow window – there is no other opportunity between now and September – the TECH people tell us there will be about 200 people who will have funding – I hope you’ll consider a compromise and look at a biennium project and pledge to revisit it

DeAnna – can we make a formal motion to approve these AA degrees

Motion – if these AA degrees are approved, they will be reassessed in two years and would have to be reapproved by the senate in two years to continue – AA should be reviewed to be sure it meets the OTM model – that might require some tweaking of the science sequences so there is a lab course for each – this would add to keeping people on campus

Amendment has been moved and seconded – Is that something Education is willing to accept as a friendly amendment

Asked Carol to accept - Yes

Vote on amendment - 12 in favor - 4 opposed

Jodi - Before voting on the template for AA, can we change WR 115 to WR 121
Suggest: two courses at WR 121 or higher within AA template that we will be voting on ultimately

Carol - This changes intent of what is being offered

DeAnna - OTM – has to be 121 – does it have to be a sequence or just 121

Jodi makes her suggestion a motion – it is seconded
Motion is to change the template as it stands – the one we will be finally voting on – to two courses at 121 or higher

Discussion

Jeff – I think Jodi’s amendment is a good one – it annoys me that that amendment is taken as annoying to others - we make compromises on this campus all the time – because it serves students – programs do these things to be team players – when Jodi tells us that WR 121 is the basic college level writing course - if we’re sending people out to start a career in education, we should want them to have the basic college level writing course – and the fact that by historical accident that number was 115 instead of 095 – that shouldn’t count against the substance of what Jodi’s suggesting

Carol asked for clarification

Greg – changing 115 to 121

Steve – so it would be two writing courses at 121 or higher

Peter - what are the rules of transferring – does it need to be WR 121

DeAnna – yes but we don't know if it is a sequence

Michael – I think it's a problem and here's the reason I think it's a problem – if you put 121 in there, then that presumes there's a 122 – we don't have 122 – what do they take next

Jodi – if you look at other courses on the template, History starts at 201 - Math starts at 211

Michael – the OTM model assumes more what the community colleges offer

Colleen – need to vote on the issue of switching WR 115 to WR 121 – this is an OTM or AAOT process - over the next two years, we would look at this program and to satisfy the OTM we would have to change language then

Vote: Jodi's motion to change WR 115 to WR 121

In Favor - 8

Opposed - 4

Abstain - 4

Passes

Now voting on actual AA

Steve – those in favor of accepting the AA with two amendments – reapproved by senate in two years – change WR 115 to WR 121

In Favor - 14

Opposed – 1

Abstain – 0

Passes

Clarification – OTM – that's going to be part of the review process – it is a year long process - Classes offered in AA are classes that if they transfer – then all courses transfer

Carol promises to review for OTM

Requirements for AA in Administrative Management

Moved and seconded to approve

Discussion

Jeff - Apropos to previous discussion – assume Business is ok with changing Gen Ed electives to say “general education electives required to meet the OTM” – need to be more specific about the electives

DeAnna – particularly the science electives

Colleen – my concern is we want to be clear that if it meets the OTM it may not necessarily meet our Gen Ed

Greg – we want to keep them here – why would we want them to transfer someplace?

Jeff – because it’s just false advertising to bring people here in this work force crisis

Carol – lots of AA degrees at Community Colleges that are not AAOT – so for us to have an AA that is not an AAOT is not unusual - this isn’t an obligation – if you look at other Community Colleges, many have an AA that is not an AAOT

Steve J. – if we look at students getting an AA degrees and students what is their educational aspiration – doesn’t need to be locked into something else – they’re going to take courses – it’s going to meet their needs – and it may not meet Gen Ed or OTM

Dea - AAOT is the Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer – that’s the name of the degree and if Eastern is going to offer it, we can’t call it anything else – that’s what it is – the AA’s are specific degrees – if we offer an AAOT, we’re saying “come, but we want you to transfer” – we should keep this in mind

Jeff – I concede the point that the Community Colleges may be doing something different – but that doesn’t mean we should – we as a faculty in A and S and on this campus – we talked about the OTM – we really did endorse this notion that Eastern students pursuing Gen Ed in the system would be guaranteed a certain kind of transferability – I don’t want to lose those students either – but if we’re developing a new degree – the new AA’s on this campus – I think DeAnna’s amendment, which we passed, is essential – all it means is that instead of students pursuing this AA having to complete our Gen Ed, it means that students completing this degree have to complete our Gen Ed with a lab science course – why would we not want to stand by our principles if we have endorsed as a faculty the OTM – why would we want to have something going out under our name that doesn’t

M – we have our whole Gen Ed that doesn’t meet OTM

Peter – It seems that this is a good reason why we’re going to review in two years

DeAnna - One of the things we hear students say – they’re unfamiliar with what the degrees mean – they think that if you go to college, you get a piece of paper that counted for everything – (she was first generation) – I had no idea of “accreditation” or any idea that there were difference in how these degrees were offered - we have to look out for our students – if they come in and take a series of classes, they’re supposed to meet what we consider to be an AA degree - we have to realize that these students will go on, get married, have other opportunities – they will take from EOU then they can apply to other areas to further their education institutions – otherwise, we’re taking advantage of people – that is not honest

Ted – this is an opportunity for students to obtain competencies and recognition and then go out and seek employment – if they have to go on for a four-year degree, that’s an entirely different question – we have a lot of people who have AA degree and they have no desire to get a four-year degree or an AAOT or anything else – that two-year degree is their goal in life – this then meets our responsibility to the community – it provides students in the seats – one thing I’d like to do is go to the President’s page and go to “graduates by degree” (Elmo is up right now – we’ve looked at that before) – ok – and we know there are programs in peril and the programs that are not in peril are BUS and ED – they’re the ones people come here for – not for Gen Ed program – not for many degrees we offer – 70-80 % of our students that graduate are directly related to either ED or BUS – the conversation we’ve had today is going to put additional roadblocks and standards there, not standards, additional hurdles for students to find coursework so they can get an employable type of education

Greg – if we’re going to use that logic, we should just charge them \$15,000, give them a piece of paper, and send them off without taking a class

Jeff – I can’t tell you how strongly I disagree with Ted’s argument – I concede how thriving our BUS program is and our ED program and that’s to all of our good – but our students come here because they want a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in BUS – not because they want to study BUS – they could go to business colleges to do that – things like the integrity of Gen Ed are not just hurdles the students are forced to negotiate, it is part of what they’re buying - it part of the credential they walk out of here with – it is irrelevant, it is not nit picking at the edges to insist – senate is doing good work this afternoon – taking our responsibility about curriculum and new programs very seriously – this is a collective discussion by the whole senate, the whole faculty – not simply by programs that happens to be thriving

--- Just to clarify, there has been a motion and a second - call for the question

Steve – question has been called – we need to vote on whether to continue discussion
Jeff – point of order - for future reference – that statement “I call the question” really does not have any parliamentary status at all – it simply an expression of one member of

the body stating that maybe it is time to wrap up the discussion and then that's you're call – there is a formal motion of “I move the previous question” which is non-debatable and does force the vote - it tells colleagues we're done listening to you – so I would hope in the future that if someone says this that we not vote in favor of the motion if the discussion is ongoing

Greg – I move the previous question

Second

Moved and seconded for the previous question

We are now voting - a yes vote means that we will end discussion – no vote means to continue discussion

3 to end discussion

7 to continue discussion

4 abstain

Discussion continues

Dan – I understand the discussion and I agree with Jeff, and these are good for the senate, we're really not addressing the issue of this particular AA degree that we have before us – aside from the argument of OTM and AAOT, which certainly has some impact here, we need to concentrate on whether or not were going to approve this particular Associate degree

Jeff – I agree with that – and I think given DeAnna's amendment about Associate degrees in general and given Les's sign-off that the BUS College would indeed ensure that the Gen Ed did meet the OTM and Gen Ed core – I'm actually prepare to vote in favor of the AA – I was opposed to stopping the discussion by fiat

Jodi – I just wonder how the business core template of this degree looks compared to a four-year degree – is it the same exact set of courses

Les - There are a lot more courses in a business degree

Jodi – for the first two years of a business student's degree program what would be different about this particular degree – before you answer, let me just say for the AA degree in CAS, for example – if a student just followed any kind of whatever template, that student could probably count on spending another year, a fifth year on campus, having to do all the first and second year requirements for an Associate degree

Les – what we did when we put this together was to put it together so that there would be a seamless transfer if they decided to go for a four-year degree – I think it is the same as what our four-year students would take - perhaps one course difference – 220 is not a requirement for undergrad four-year degree – would not be held up at all – they wouldn't have to spend an extra year

Peter – this includes four or five breadth areas – what does that mean – plus gateway

---- So for clarification – the same amendment applies that this we reevaluate in two years

Steve – I believe that is the motion we brought forward - Yes – applies to all AA's

VOTE on this AA proposal for Administrative Management

In favor 12

Opposed 1

Abstain 2

Passed

Certificate in Education

Moved and seconded to approve

Steve – Please remember there is an motion amendment on the table about the writing

Peter – I just wonder what jobs this certificate allows you to get

Carol – most likely you would be looking at a job as an educational assistant or a preschool teacher

Steve are there any other comments on this amendment to change WR 115 to WR 121

Then let's take a vote on that

All those in favor of accepting that amendment, please raise your hand

In favor 2

Opposed 8

Abstain 4

Motion Fails

Jeff – This is a question for Michael and to Dea – what is the certificate – will it be transcribed

Michael – it will be transcribed – it is a protected word in the OUS system - we have to have formal approval for a certificate – it is a block of courses for a particular function - the purpose is either work force initiative or it's a stair step – some colleges use it as a block that builds the masters degree

Richard – so it's related to skills and not the number of credits

Michael – it can be related to skills, yes – or it could be functional

DeAnna – I'm wondering if all these courses are necessary for the certificate – the reason why I'm asking is the audience that is going to take the certificate, perhaps the classes that they need to develop that skill set might not be as extensive as the ones that are there

Carol

Certificate – after five credits – we believe that for cert 20-45 credits – we believe important for students that is at right level for them – they will take writing later – we've taken care of that in the AA – they're still going to meet number of credits and this encourages them and advisors to take a course that is at too high a level

Carol – these folks often teach small groups – content is important – they also need good writing and math skills and content background – we need to give adequate and appropriate entry level courses – this would be milestone or stepping stone to AA – tried to develop logical and best array of courses – this was our best effort – this made the most sense to us – the paraprofessional program is usually one year – we might make it smaller – looking at in the future might make that modification

VOTE on this cert

Favor 11

Opposed 1

Abstain 2

Passes

Cert in Office Management

Motion to approve

Second

Discussion

Jodi - Irony that WR 121 required here but not in education

Michael - Part of problem – a lot of people in paraprofessional programs might be in a second language situation – they might be ok in content areas but stumble in writing

Jeff - Worry about false advertising – certificates have meaning within OUS – we take students who are desperate – we promise them an array of courses – something on transcript – wonder how much more employable they are after than before

Colleen - Certificates related to work force development – federal dollars are limited to an 18 month window – need to be able to complete certificate in that time or run out of money

MJ – there are multiple revenue sources for this – short term work force in OR – different rules – if the counselor cannot say here is an aim that is certifiable – can't just send to college for endless stream of courses – have be focused

Jeff - Are there guidelines for certificates

Michael - yes – there are guidelines – very general but forms to fill in

VOTE

In favor - 13

Opposed - 0

Abstain - 1

Passes

Rosemary will wait until next meeting

Michael – His topics are too important to start and not finish in seven minutes

Need to reschedule meeting – DeAnna will organize