EPC Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2011

Present: M. Broadway (Chair), J. Milkie, B. Graves, B. Sarjeant, D. Kobie, P. Lang, D. Brady, C. Kirk, H. Wallace, T. Seethoff, D. Walch, and P. Duby

Approval of Minutes

D. Walch made a motion to approve the October 10, 2011, minutes. D. Kobie seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.

Approval of Agenda

P. Lang requested Search Updates be added. Amended agenda approved.

Business

P. Lang presented a list of departments who have been approved to replace faculty who have either resigned or retired. The list also included the three approved enhancement positions. They are as follows: AD (1 enhancement), BI (1 replacement), CAPS (2 replacements), EN (3 replacements), MA (3 replacements), PY (1 replacement), CS (2 replacements and 2 enhancements), ET (1 replacement), HPER (3 replacements and 1 enhancement), NE (2 replacements), SO (1 replacement), and TOS (1 replacement).

T. Ferrarini reported that she has traveled the UP and studied regional economic growth and development. People are having less children and the mid-aged group is shrinking. The biggest increase in population is among people over the age of 65. Verso, Marinette Marine, and Kennecott are working with universities and community colleges in identifying ways to teach needed skills to workers. The end result would be that trained workers would gain employment at the respective company.

On behalf of the HPER department, Cheryl Teeter presented the department’s request for an enhancement position in Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Management. Adventure tourism is one of the fastest growing industries. Not a lot of universities in the Midwest offer programs in travel and tourism. 95% of graduates in ORLM find employment. There are currently one tenured and one term instructor along with 5-7 adjuncts. There are currently 100+ majors.

On behalf of the Sociology department, Alex Ruuska and Scott Demel presented the department’s request for an enhancement position in Anthropology. The position would specialize in Medical and Physical Anthropology. This program has increased dramatically since 2007. Other programs that could be assisted by the anthropology programs are nursing and Native American studies. Additional funding may be needed for labs.

On behalf of the Technology and Occupational Sciences department, Daryl Kobie presented the department’s request for an enhancement position in Industrial Maintenance/Welding. Welding and Industrial Maintenance has seen a steady increase in majors over the past eight years. There are currently one full-time faculty member and multiple adjuncts in the program. Industry needs show an increase demand for skilled workers in these areas. No additional equipment or labs space would be needed.

A discussion was held on the needs of the local job market. Our competitors are way ahead of the game. The enhancement position request process needs to be quicker in order to keep up with the needs of the market. The possibility of using an incentive loan rather than wait until next year’s funding becomes available was discussed for the Industrial Maintenance/Welding request. P. Duby will work with D. Kobie on developing a business plan. D. Kobie will also identify an exit strategy should the need a rise.

Good of the Order

Global Entrepreneur Ernesto Sirolli will be speaking tonight. He is being sponsored by NMU, Kennecott, and Michigan Works.
Meeting adjourned 4:59