

Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2017 | 1:00 p.m. | Carrington 203

I. Call to order

Margaret Weaver called to order the regular meeting of the EPP Committee on Diversity at 1:05 p.m. on October 18, 2017.

Present: Mandy Benedict-Chambers, Daisy Collins, Chris Craig, Andre Homburg, Ashley Leinweber, Michelle Morgan, Sarah Nixon, Nate Quinn, Margaret Weaver.

II. Approval of minutes

Sept. 6, 2017 minutes stand.

III. Discussion

- 1. AAT Articulation Agreement
 - a. Dr. Chris Craig was introduced by Dr. Margaret Weaver.
 - i. Rachael Dockery was not invited to today's meeting only because she is not experienced with the AAT and would not have any input for the committee.
 - ii. MSU and OTC administrators will be meeting next week and one of the topics of discussion will be the AAT. Dr. Craig is a latecomer to the conversation around the AAT and the transfer of EDC 345. President Smart signed the AAT agreement in December. Not all universities in the state have signed the agreement. There is heavy pressure at the state level from the Department of Higher Education for other institutions to sign the agreement.

Advising issues with OTC surfaced just after the agreement was signed. In effect, the AAT articulation agreement did not change with OTC. However, individual programs at MSU have changed (i.e., the technology course has disappeared, not all students take the foundation class). OTC was faced with a set of courses that didn't fit all programs at MSU. OTC then began to look for something that unilaterally affects all programs. For MSU that was diversity. OTC initiated dialog with COE. OTC essentially took its foundation class and retooled it to make it more of a diversity class. At some point the registrar was given the go-ahead to code the OTC class as PEU 016.

Dr. Homburg facilitated dialog between Dr. Danielle Lillge (MSU) and Angie Miller from OTC. [A summary of the dialog was distributed to the committee as prepared by Dr. Lillge.] The summary confirms that OTC's EDU 222 (Foundations in Education in a Diverse Society) is a foundations class that fulfills one of the four core classes that are part of the AAT agreement, not the AAT's "Multicultural Education" elective course option. Dr. Craig clarified that in other discussions there was the assumption that the class would come in as EDC 345. Several members of the committee asked if the PEU 016 code could be rescinded. The Provost's position is that the regional characteristics of what MSU could and should do with OTC are different from the ATT articulation agreement. Dr. Craig emphasized that MSU is not going to accept or code as PEU 16 similarly named courses from other schools."

Concerns were expressed that using two different PEU codes for the same course allows the OTC students to receive a "two-fer" because the class attempts to cover in three hours what MSU courses do in 6 hours. Dr. Craig agreed that this is a concern and will look into the issue."

Dr. Craig does not expect the committee to have oversight of EDC 345 but expects the committee to have input into the class. Oversight belongs to the RFT department. Dr. Tuesda Roberts piloted a course-wide assessment last semester. It is not too late to make this course assessment part of the MSU report if faculty and EPPC agree.

A question was asked as to how a 200 level course from a two-year college transfers as a 300 level course to a four-year college. Also, what are RFTs responsibilities in the oversight of the course? RFT has been hesitant to impose a common syllabus, common assignments, and a common assessment on adjunct faculty. A suggestion was made about the committee drafting a letter to RFT to encourage the setting of standards for the class. An appropriate mechanism needs to be in place to ensure the competencies are being met for EDC 345. The committee was uncertain whether there is currently something in Taskstream for diversity proficiencies involving data pulled from EDC 345."

Dr. Craig intends to continue to have this dialog with BSEd on Friday.

Options were briefly discussed regarding the charge from the EPPC Chair. Dr Homburg will either retract the charge or encourage the Diversity Committee to reject the charge with a report detailing the reasons why."

IV. Adjournment

Margaret Weaver adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Respectfully submitted by: Vicki Kramer