

**EPC Annual Report  
2018 – 2019**

**Membership:**

AAUP: Brandon Canfield, Chris Kirk, Jill Leonard, Lesley Putman (chair), Marcus Robyns  
Admin: Jim Cantrill, Carol Johnson, Dale Kapla, Leslie Warren, Rob Winn

**Meetings:**

The committee met twelve (12) times during the 2018-19 academic year from 3:00 to 5:00 PM on the following dates:

9/17/18, 10/1/18, 10/15/17, 10/29/18, 11/12/18, 11/26/18, 1/14/19, 1/28/19, 2/11/19, 2/25/19 (snow day - did not meet), 3/18/19, 4/1/19, 4/15/19

**Reports:**

- A. D. Kapla reported on staffing updates in response to our recommendations from last year. See the Annual Report from 2017-18 for the recommendations.
1. Clinical Sciences: A term position was converted to a tenure track position (funded by ELCE for the first two years, then will be funded by Academic Affairs).
  2. Criminal Justice: declined a new position that would have been funded by Extended Learning and Community Engagement (ELCE).
  3. Psychological Sciences: a) a 3-year term position funded by ELCE was filled, b) a term position was converted to a tenure-track position.
  4. Chemistry: a 3-yr term position was filled.
  5. Nursing: The 3-yr term position was not filled because they wanted to see if enrollment would hold.
  6. Biology: a 3-yr term position was filled.
  7. Social Work: They were approved to search for a 1-yr term and were interviewing candidates for a 3-yr term.
  8. Health and Human Performance: a 3-yr term position was filled.
- B. In response to EPC's recommendation from 2017/18, the following term positions were converted to tenure track positions.
1. Nursing: 5 faculty were converted from term to tenure track.
  2. The following departments each had one position that was converted from term to tenure track: Clinical Sciences, Art & Design, Psychological Sciences, Mathematics/Computer Science, Languages, Literature, & International Studies

## **Presentations:**

Deans of the Colleges gave presentations on the state of their college:

1. Library and Instructional Support: L. Warren, 11/26/19
2. College of Arts and Sciences: R. Winn, 1/14/19
3. College of Health Sciences and Professional studies: D. Kapla, 1/14/19
4. College of Business: C. Johnson, 1/28/19

## **Recommendations:**

EPC approved a recommendation to the PVPAA about the need for a university-wide discussion about Ph.D. programs. In response, the PVPAA selected Lisa Eckert to arrange a retreat for this discussion. L. Eckert put together a retreat during which the pros and cons of Ph.D. programs were discussed. (9/17/18)

EPC approved a recommendation to support a 3-year term position in Psychological Sciences for the on-line Psychology program. The position will be funded by ELCE. (1/28/19)

EPC approved a recommendation to suspend the LPN program and allow them to do a 2-year teach out which would require a 1-year term position. (3/18/19)

## **Discussions:**

- A. EPC's role in the Strategic Resource Allocation (SRA): EPC expected to get proposals from the SRA to evaluate, but no proposals were received during this academic year.
- B. M.A. article 5.1.1.1: Data shows that we are still not in compliance with the ratio of tenure/tenure track faculty FTETF to the total faculty FTETF. Possible corrective actions include: converting 7 term/continuing contract positions to tenure track positions, hiring 14 new tenure track faculty, or not renewing 12 term positions (or the equivalent contingent/adjunct positions). Converting term to tenure track isn't always feasible because some people hired for term positions are not qualified for a tenure track position. New tenure track faculty require an increase in the base budget for instruction. The base budget needs to be increased in order to bring the ratio into compliance.
- C. Effect of 16-credit plateau on programs: J. Leonard presented data for the credit load trends for Biology and Chemistry majors over the last 14 years. It showed that fewer students are taking 17-18 credit hours in a semester now that there is a 16-credit limit for tuition. This could lead to longer times to graduation, but it is too soon to see if this will be the case.
- D. Modality of classes: There is concern that some programs are not advertised as hybrid programs even though they require one or more courses that are only offered on-line. On-line courses require a \$50/credit fee. The registrar said that she would be willing to put a note in the bulletin

about a program requiring at least one on-line course if the department intends for that to be the situation, i.e. a required course will never be offered face-to-face.

- E. EPC reform: A committee that was formed last year to consider possible changes to EPC, continued to meet and bring ideas to EPC. At the end of the academic year, EPC agreed that the reform committee could submit what they have to the AAUP for use in the next negotiations.
- F. Academic Program Review (APR): EPC reviewed the notes that were made about APR back on 2/20/17. EPC agrees that the APR process should be continued but some changes are warranted. EPC produced a list of suggested changes that was sent to the PVPAA.

**Issues:**

Two new graduate programs, Speech-Language Pathology and Mathematics, that would require additional faculty were approved by PVPAA without the input of EPC. This reflects a flaw in process because according to M.A. 3.3.1.8, proposals that would result in an increase in faculty must be submitted to EPC. EPC suggested that CUP and GPC send such proposals to EPC when they send them to Senate.