

## **Educational Policy Committee recommendation for changing R & P 3.6 Provisional Courses**

### **Current Language:**

#### 3.6 Provisional Courses:

- 1) Courses offered by departments as provisional courses must fit into one of the following categories:
  - a. Trial or experimental courses.
  - b. Courses of immediate relevance or of current, rather than lasting, issues.
  - c. Special opportunities courses (for example, a visiting professor could offer a course in his/her particular area of expertise, which could not be taught by a regular faculty member and, therefore, could not become a permanent catalog offering).
- 2) No course may be offered as a provisional course for more than two years.
- 3) Provisional courses are proposed by departments. Each must be approved by the dean of the college in which the offering department is located. If a proposed provisional course may have a material effect on course offerings or enrollments in another college.
- 4) Interdisciplinary provisional courses for which a departmental designation is inappropriate may be offered, subject to the approvals of the programs involved and the dean(s) of the college(s) in which the offering is located. If a proposed interdisciplinary provisional course may have a material effect on course offerings or enrollments in another college, it must be designed in consultation with the affected department(s) and college(s). Interdisciplinary provisional courses will bear a course designation of the relevant college or program.
- 5) Provisional courses are given course numbers ending with 95, 96, 97, or 98.
- 6) The titles of provisional courses shall appear on students' transcripts.

### **Proposed new language:**

#### Section 3.6 Provisional Courses:

- 1) Courses offered by academic units as provisional courses must fit into one of the following categories:
  - a. Trial or experimental courses.
  - b. Courses of immediate relevance or of current, rather than lasting, issues.
  - c. Special opportunities courses (for example, a visiting professor could offer a course in their particular area of expertise, which could not be taught by a regular faculty member and, therefore, could not become a permanent catalog offering).
- 2) No course may be offered as a provisional course for more than two years.

3) Provisional courses are proposed by academic units. Every provisional course must be reviewed and approved by the dean of the college in which the offering academic unit is located before being offered. If proposed provisional courses may have a material effect on course offerings or enrollments in multiple colleges, all college deans who are impacted must also be consulted for approval. If proposed provisional courses are cross-listed across multiple academic units, all chairs and program directors must be consulted and provide approval to the college dean or deans.

4) Provisional courses are given course numbers ending with 95, 96, 97, or 98.

5) The titles of provisional courses shall appear on students' transcripts.

**Rationale:**

“Departments” is an outdated usage in this context since any academic unit (departments, programs, etc.) can roster provisional courses. Hence, the change in the prose section 1).

The process described in 3) reflects present practice.