Communication from the Committee on Courses of Instruction
C. Anthony Hunt, Ph.D., Chair

September 14, 2011

Abbey Alkon, RN, PhD
Chair, Committee on Education Policy

Re: Award Units for Participation without Other Evaluation

Dear Chair Alkon,

The Academic Senate Committee on Courses of Instruction (COCOI) is seeking guidance from the Committee on Educational Policy. Following a discussion during our most recent meeting, the issue of awarding academic units for courses where only participation or attendance is required, absent any additional method of evaluation was discussed. We have a general guideline or expectation that for each hour of lecture, the student will work three hours. Using a 1-unit course as an example, is it appropriate for a student to earn 1 unit of credit for simply attending 10 hours of lecture or material presentation without any evidence that the expected 30 hours of out-of-class work (possibly preparation or reading of some kind) actually occurred?

If the answer is yes, can the units earned from such a course count toward the number of units required for graduation?

We very much appreciate EPC's policy guidance on this minor issue.

Sincerely,

C. Anthony Hunt,
Chair, Committee on Courses of Instruction

CC: Robert Newcomer, Chair, San Francisco Division of the Academic Senate
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