ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE
Monday, September 12, 2022
2:30p.m. | UC Council Room
MINUTES

Present: Benedict, Couch, Levin, Mahovsky, Muller, Parker, Senbet ,Welsh, Wieben,
Absent: Allen, Cieminski, Jensen, Matchett,
Guests: Lyons, McCarten, Huang

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 2:34

Approval of the Agenda
Approved without objection.

Approval of the August 29, 2022 meeting minutes
Approved without objection, noting that Senbet will be moved from "guest" to "present"

Announcements/Chair's Report
None

Reports from Councils:
Graduate Council – no report
Liberal Arts Council – no report
Professional Education Council – no report, we meet the 23rd
Undergraduate Council – we will meet for the first time tomorrow
Student Senate – no report

Special Reports
None

Unfinished Business
- **Permanent S/U Grading Policy** - *on hold; awaiting feedback from UGC*
- **Grade Submission policy**
   - Discussion of changing wording to indicate "Academic Unit Leaders" instead of Chairs/Directors.

MOTION: Approve new wording with the changes noted above, and move the policy on to Senate with that change
VOTE: Approved by voice vote

- **Degree Conferral** - *on hold*
- **Retroactive Degree Conferral** - *on hold*
- **CORE Initiative** – *on hold; awaiting feedback from UGC*

New Business

- **4-day class schedule**
  - o Proposal overview given by Levin and Jeri Lyons.
- DISCUSSION:
  - o Let's not rule out Friday as the non-teaching day because of a fear that faculty won't be engaged on Fridays.
  - o Do we want to make a plan that won't work in the future if our enrollment grows? Can we avoid that?
  - o How many of our students come to campus 5 days each week? Would this really reduce their number of days on campus?
  - o Students and faculty prefer 2-day classes now. Making all courses 2-days each week would match preferences
  - o If we go to this schedule it needs to be campus-wide. Can we make any exceptions? Some programs, like nursing, can't make this schedule work as currently envisioned.
    - ▪ Nursing would want an exception but could work with the new schedule. Is it okay for a few groups to have exceptions? Probably. We don't need 100% of all classes on this schedule.
  - o What would this do to space use across campus? Do we have the space we need? That would have to be assessed.
  - o Will section caps need to be raised?
  - o How can we schedule this to maintain course selection options for students? We might need an outside audit from professionals to look at the time and space issues.
  - o Would this pressure faculty to take on more service, if we had an "open" day for it?
  - o Even a half day with no classes creates a better schedule and campus community. At other institutions the full or half-day teaching moratorium works very well.
  - o How do we assess the feasibility of this? There was a space audit 11 years ago that was comprehensive and expensive and then never used. How do we approach this?
    - ▪ Space first: can we even fit these classes in our space?
    - ▪ If space is available, can we give students the schedule options that they need?
    - ▪ Can we mitigate space/time concerns by putting more online?
    - ▪ Can we make schedules more flexible by adding hybrid classes with components that don't meet face to face?
  - o There are clear pedagogical benefits to 75-minute courses
  - o Couch: from the administrative systems side, this would take at least 2 years to implement. This means starting in Fall 2024 at the earliest.
  - o What are the main goals of this policy? What do we prioritize? Universal professional development time? Student schedules with 1 open day? Faculty schedules with 1 open day? Better pedagogy via 75-minute classes? How much should we compromise on different aspects of the proposal?
  - o To do: We need to think about what big questions we need to answer before moving forward with discussion.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment
   Meeting was adjourned at 3:48pm

Oscar Levin   Lauryn Benedict
Chair   Vice Chair & acting Recording Secretary