

## ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, March 2, 2026  
2:30 p.m. | UC Council Room

Present: Borum, Cieminski, Couch, Etheridge-Woodson, Garrett, Gershwin, Karlin, Leatherman, Mannello, Newman

Zoom: Han, Leonard, Trask, Wood

Absent: Chapin

Guest: Cindy Wesley

Call to Order 2:34pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objection

Approval of the February 16, 2026, meeting minutes approved without objection

### **Announcements/Chair's Report:**

- Division of Student Academic Success, Proposal to Revise Academic Warning Language for motion 3/2/26
- AI Syllabus proposal motion to Senate for 3/2/26 first read
- Graduate School Request: Policy around credits for accelerated graduate programs motion to Senate for 3/2/26 first read
- Dr. Cindy Wesley, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, will join us today (3/2) to present new graduate school proposals

### **Reports from Councils:**

Graduate Council (Cieminski) – The Graduate Council is reviewing a transfer credit policy aimed at improving student access and reducing time to degree completion. The goal is to address related issues in a timely manner.

Liberal Arts Council (Wood) – At the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Liberal Arts Council finalized the communications & documents related to the Foundational Skills Credential and endorsed a document that provides guidance to faculty creating Challenge Exams for LAC courses. The document will be posted on curricular toolkit.

Professional Education Council (Paytoe Gbayee) - The PEC met, we had been holding onto some curriculum that we pushed through this morning when Cheryl Sparks, our admin assistant support was back in the office (she doesn't work Fridays and was off Thursday afternoon when our meeting finished). Thanks to Jen Cherico and Kati and the whole registrar team for their support keeping the workflow functioning and helping the PEC members understand what is happening and coming up. We have sent three advisory members, two school partners and one undergraduate student to be approved by the CEBS Dean, they would serve the rest of this year and next year. We have several positions open; I will connect with Lee to get those into the next election so we can get them filled. In addition to the four that are routinely up, there are two additional vacancies, one resignation and one vacancy due to a position being cut. Several members will be seeking re-election.

Undergraduate Council (Karlin) –The Undergraduate Council will meet next week.  
Student Government Association (Baxter) – No report

Special Reports:

Special Order:

**New Business:**

**1. College of Osteopathic Medicine Proposals (four linked below):**

**a. These will need to get to BOT since they are currently in the catalog now**

- [faculty-senate-policy-motion UNC COM Grade Appeal Policy.docx](#)
  - Concerns about the lack of student representation and how the process is not clearly outlined were raised
    - In addition to questions about how cheating is defined and whether that belongs in the syllabus.
  - There is hesitation about including a formal definition in policy and it was suggested that the policy can reference existing academic integrity standards.
  - Due to time constraints Codification will also review the COM policies simultaneously.
- [faculty-senate-policy-motion UNC COM Grading Policy.docx](#)
- [faculty-senate-policy-motion UNC COM Remediation, Re-Examination and Make-up Exams.docx](#)
- [faculty-senate-policy-motion-UNC COM Academic Dishonesty.docx](#)

**2. Graduate Council/Graduate School:**

- See the attachments below and linked here: [Proposal to Change Minimum Doctoral Credits.docx](#)
  - This will allow students to transfer credits from a previously awarded master's degree at another institution. However, additional credits at a higher cost, particularly in an environment where graduate student loans are expected to be capped may be required.
  - It was suggested to discuss with colleges to better understand their intended outcomes and how those outcomes can be achieved.
  - Questions to consider
    - What is the process for programs that want to participate in this work?
    - How will program rigor be maintained?
    - Is there a formal mechanism in place?
- [Proposal to Change Minimum Doctoral Credits.docx](#)
  - It was noted that the proposal provides flexibility for programs to opt in without making it a requirement.
  - A question was raised about whether programs can offer a range of credit requirements.
    - There were concerns expressed about how variability may affect financial aid processes and how potential shifts to private loans could further impact this.

- Further clarification of what the minimum requirements for the degree will be needed
- **MOTION:** Leatherman moves to approve the proposal to Change the Minimum Doctoral Credits seconded by Karlin.
- **DISCUSSION:**
  - Implementation timing was questioned,
    - While students can change their catalog year, the rollout should not be rushed to allow programs adequate time to adjust.
    - It could potentially be implemented in the spring
  - The anticipated workload for the Registrar is minimal, as the changes are primarily narrative and not expected to require significant effort.
- **VOTE:** Motion approved unanimously
- [Grad Proposal Cross Numbered - Newman.pdf](#)
  - The proposal highlights several benefits, including increased enrollment, addressing faculty declines and financial concerns, and enabling faster completion of master's degrees through programs such as 4+1 programs.
    - UNC will also be in compliance with HLC.
    - It may also help graduate students feel more supported and part of a cohort, while allowing undergraduates to take graduate-level courses.
  - Concerns were raised about quality control, particularly for “double-numbered” courses.
    - It was explained that new courses would go through the curriculum committee and provost review, while existing ones currently do not have a quality control process.
  - Suggestions included revising policy language, requiring separate syllabi to distinguish undergraduate and graduate expectations, and clearly defining “double-numbered” courses.
    - There were concerns about how graduate students may feel undervalued in these settings.
  - It was recommended to revise the full proposal before moving forward with a vote.
- [Comprehensive Doctoral Requirements.docx](#)

### **Continued Business:**

#### **1. S/U Grading Policy Proposed Modifications.**

- See the revised document [S\\_U Grading \(CLEAN 2\\_2026\).docx](#)
- [S\\_U Grading \(OLD Version\).docx](#)
- [S\\_U Grading \(MARKED REVISIONS 2\\_26\).docx](#)

#### **2. Academic Appeals Board requests:**

- Revise the Academic Appeal Procedure in Board Policy Manual 2-1-201

- Revise the Academic Appeal committee membership in Board Policy Manual 2-1-201
  - Endres presented to APC 1/20/26
  - See (Draft) [Revised Academic Appeal Procedure.docx](#)
  - Newman and Etheridge-Woodson will work together to revise the proposal and bring an updated version back to the committee.
3. **Policy Recommendations of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force**
- See AI APC Policy folder for all related documents: [AI Policies](#)
  - APC Responsibilities:
    - (a) [AI syllabus policy](#) sent to senate for motion (2/12/26)
    - (b) APC Completed the following (2/2/26):
      - Reviewed Undergrad/Graduate catalogs re: Student Code of Conduct/plagiarism policy to ensure it is aligned with AI policy and AI taskforce recommendations.
      - Reviewed Student Code of Conduct: [UNCO Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf](#)
      - Reviewed UNCO Graduate Catalog Plagiarism- AI Policy for AI additions/edits: [GRADUATE CATALOG 2025-2026: Plagiarism - Generative Artificial Intelligence Policy](#)
      - **APC Reviewed UNCO Plagiarism- Student Policies and Procedures** for AI additions/edits: [UNCO Plagiarism- Student Policies and Procedures.docx](#)
- Goal: Complete all AI work (syllabi statement and university policy reviews) by March 2026 (completed 2/2/26)**

Comments to the Good of the Order  
Adjournment 3:47pm

Tracy Gershwin  
 Chair