

ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, September 26, 2022

2:30p.m. | UC Council Room

MINUTES

Present: Benedict, Cieminski, Couch (Heiny), Leonard, Levin, Matchett, Muller, Parker, Senbet, Welsh, Wieben

Absent: Allen, Jensen, Mahovsky,

Guests:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:34

Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of the September 12, 2022 meeting minutes

Approved without objection.

Announcements/Chair's Report

Levin is exploring classroom capacity and other data relevant to the proposed 4-day schedule. He also has heard from faculty who might initiate a discussion about a policy prohibiting amorous relationships between instructors and students.

Reports from Councils:

Graduate Council – Looking at a policy for changing the number of allowed thesis and dissertation credits. We're revising the number of credits needed for part-time and full-time status. We're working to improve mental health support for graduate students.

Liberal Arts Council – We are working on indirect and direct assessment policies and communicating with units about them

Professional Education Council – No representative present

Undergraduate Council – We had a discussion of CORE – what types of degrees will be awarded? We recommend awarding multiple Associate's degrees: AGS & AA, but not AS.

Student Senate – No report

Special Reports

None

Unfinished Business

- **Permanent S/U Grading Policy** – Still waiting to hear from UGC before we proceed

- **Degree Conferral** – Matchett presented updated language for a revised Degree Conferral Policy. DISCUSSION: There was discussion about how to distinguish the conferral date from the date when the registrar posts conferral.

TO DO: Levin will update wording and bring it back.

- **Retroactive Degree Conferral** - Matchett presented updated language for a revised Retroactive Degree Conferral Policy.

MOTION; Approve and move to codification

VOTE: Approved by unanimous voice vote

- **CORE Initiative** -

DISCUSSION: What is the process for approving this initiative? The UGC and provost's office have reviewed it. Do they need to go through other Senate committees or straight to the BOT?

MOTION: UGC moves to participate in the CORE initiative by awarding AGS and AA degrees according to the state minimum requirements.

VOTE: Approved by unanimous voice vote

- **4-day class schedule**- AKA the "revised scheduling blocks proposal"

DISCUSSION: Levin: what should APC do? We can't do all of the scheduling, but we can decide whether to move forward with exploring this possible schedule.

- Do we have classroom capacity given that we're losing two class time slots? To help answer that, Levin gathered data on the following:
 - o Current numbers suggest we could fit our classes on 4 days instead of 5. Historic data suggest that if student numbers go up, we might not have space (2017-2028 enrollment numbers would limit room availability). Levin has extensive Python scripts to explore this across semesters.
 - o Online and hybrid course improve the space outlook
 - o Levin's analysis does not account for possible course conflicts. Schedules will have to be made carefully to minimize conflicts.
- Do we think that this is a good schedule for improving pedagogy and student/faculty success? Is it a good idea from an educational standpoint?
 - o What are we trying to improve with this policy? Who is it for?
 - o Senbet: BOT and student informal feedback supports the 4-day schedule, but we need more info. Which day is the non-teaching day? We need to engage faculty and students in making these decisions.
- How do we get the best feedback from across the university? We could send a survey to faculty or we could reach out to unit leaders and ask them to discuss it within their units and provide feedback.
 - o We need to construct the survey so that we don't lead faculty in any one direction? Do we list the possible pros and cons of different days?
 - o Should we send information to the full senate first or send out a survey from APC?
 - o Should we send a survey to other campus units like athletics, residential services, and student life?

TO DO: Levin will draft a survey and reach out to leaders of other campus units to ask about concerns

New Business

- **Course Late Add – Recommended Policy Language Update:** Did not discuss.

Comments to the Good of the Order

UGC is looking for undergraduate commencement speakers!

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:54 pm

Oscar Levin
Chair

Lauryn Benedict
Vice Chair & acting Recording Secretary