

ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, March 3, 2025
2:30p.m. | UC Council Room

Minutes

Present: Benedict, Bolon, Cieminski, Couch, Kyle, Larson, Leonard, Matchett, Muller, Paytoe Gbayee

Zoom: Allen, Heiny, Parker

Absent: Newman

Call to Order 2:34pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objections

Approval of February 17, 2025, meeting minutes approved without objection

Announcements/Chair's Report (Benedict) – No report

Reports from Councils

Graduate Council (Cieminski) – The Graduate Council (GC) met last week. They discussed a proposal, based on APC input, regarding the credit requirements for full-time (FT) and part-time (PT) status graduate school. They are currently working on the language and timeline and plan to bring the proposal back to APC for further review. Additionally, they are considering reducing the number of credits required for doctoral students before taking comprehensive exams, though this may cause delays in some programs. The council is also working on bylaw revisions and updates.

Liberal Arts Council (Muller) – LAC met on 2/18/25. The call for the Summerbridge Course was sent to Relevant Unit Leads. The LAC is still waiting for all Syllabi in order to begin ISR. A full draft of the LAC Indirect Assessment Student Survey has been completed and sent to Sonia's office for testing. Chad and Heidi met with CHEM and have two more units to finalize AY 23-24 Direct Assessment Discussion of a variety of ongoing projects. The council will work on foundational skills credentials at the 3/4/25 meeting.

Professional Education Council (Paytoe Gbayee) – The Professional Education Council (PEC) is currently working on syllabi updates, bylaw revisions, and DRC items. They are in the process of selecting a new advisory panel for K-12 representation and implementing codification-recommended changes. PEC plans to consult with the Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council regarding their representation on the council. There was discussion on housing policies that are impacting students in licensure programs, particularly those with 40+ hours of internships. The Great Future Teacher Conference has wrapped up. Next month is "bring a friend" to PEC, for anyone interested in joining. A poll is being conducted to determine if they will have the last Thursday of the month meeting.

Undergraduate Council (Larson) – The Undergraduate Council discussed the commencement speakers search, applications are live on the graduation website and are due tomorrow.

Student Government Association (Bolon) – Student Government Association elections are taking place. The preliminary data on the student survey has been received, 56% were

against a Fall Break and 33% were in favor of a Fall Break. 41% support a 3-Year degree and think it should be equivalent to a bachelor's, 27% support it, but it shouldn't be equivalent, and 20% don't support a 3-year degree.

Special Reports

MiKay Elliot, Advising and Academic Success Strategist: Proposed Probation Policy Changes – skipped because MiKay Elliot was not present.

Special Order

New Business

- **Academic Appeals Procedures** ([folder with documents](#))
 - [Academic Appeals Procedures](#)
 - Matchett added a couple links to policies from other institutions about their Academic Appeals Policy in the [APC Teams Folder](#).
 - She recommends a deeper review of the policy to improve efficiency in the process.
 - An alternative approach can be proposed, where the faculty or administrators (Matchett or Provost delegate) could take the lead.
 - Clarification is needed on which office handles these situations.
 - There is an Academic Appeals Board (AAB), where its chair should be included in those discussions.
 - The last discussion on the policy occurred in 2018-2019.
 - The AAB has the final say in the possible revisions of this policy.
 - It was suggested a representative from the Provost's Office be involved to ensure balance.
 - There are inconsistencies in the process, membership, and related areas, having a comprehensive policy will be helpful.
 - The Graduate School policy is out of compliance and must be addressed.
 - Should this policy be a subset of an existing policy or stand alone?
 - Currently this is listed in the Board Policy Manual (BPM), whereas other institutions include it in their catalogs.
 - A full rewrite of the policy is necessary rather than minor edits.
 - An ad hoc committee could be formed to handle the revision.
 - MOTION: Paytoe Gbayee moves to not accept the proposed changes and recommends that Academic Appeals Board rewrite the policy, seconded by Leatherman.
 - VOTE: Approved unanimously.
 - Notes to include for the ad hoc committee:
 - The policy needs to be rewritten from scratch.
 - Clarify where the policy should be housed (currently in BPM).
 - Ensure the policy is student-friendly and easier to understand.
 - Shorten both the policy and the process timeline.
 - Involve students in the discussion.

- Maintain consistency with GSA's reference to 15 students.
- **Amorous Relations Policy** ([folder with documents](#))
 - [Amorous Policy](#)
 - Draft reviewed by Tamara, General Counsel
 - The new policy is intended to replace BPM 1-1-503 and is currently too brief and permissive.
 - It will eventually go to FWC for review.
 - Several structural and definitional concerns were raised, including whether the policy structure aligns with existing BPM policies and whether definitions should be introduced earlier for clarity.
 - The question of who falls under the "University Community" scope was asked.
 - There were suggestions to clarify whether it includes trustees and other university members.
 - Regarding Amorous Relationships:
 - Clear definitions are needed, particularly regarding power dynamics and how relationships evolve.
 - It is important to disclose relationships, especially when a power difference arises.
 - How the policy applies to students whose parents are instructors in their courses can be presented as a conflict of interest.
 - There are concerns about clarity in section F
 - The language in F(1), can be taken as anyone working in those offices cannot have an amours relationship
 - It was suggested to keep the definition of "amorous relationship" that is used in the current policy.
 - Emphasizing that such relationship is prohibited can be added to the "purpose" section of the policy
 - It was raised that too many positions were defined and suggested that they be condensed into one.
 - The definition of "instructor" is defined in other parts of the BPM and should be removed
 - It was suggested to keep the language proposed by legal.
- **Rules of Procedure** ([folder with documents](#)) – not addressed due to lack of time
 - [Draft of Rules of Procedure](#)
 - Review and revise what Harmony drafted for relationship between APC and Grad Council and Undergrad Council
 - Discuss Nancy's question: "I am a little unclear why/whether it's proposed as rules of procedure for faculty senate, rather than just included in the relevant sections of the Faculty Constitution in (BPM Article 3 Part 1), but I have no particular objection to it being done this way if other players think this way is best."

Unfinished Business

- **Curriculum Standards Recommendations** ([folder with documents](#))
 - Certificate description and residency requirements

- [Drafted new language for the catalog](#)
- **NHS proposal for Undergraduate Grader** ([folder with documents](#))
 - [NHS proposal for Undergraduate Grader](#)

New Business on hold

- **Building Catalog template and review of concentrations**
 - Harmony is still working on this and will submit for feedback when drafted
- **General Education Foundation Skills Credential (i.e., LAC “badge”)**
 - [CDHE recommendation](#)

Unfinished Business on hold

- **Graduate Student Full-time vs. Part-time Status**
- **Academic Calendar: Fall Break – Remove from future agendas. See SGA report above that students don’t support a fall break.**
 - [Comparison of CO Universities terms](#)
 - If students are not in favor, APC should move forward without further action.
 - Future discussions could address term length.
- **University Libraries Unit Organization**
 - [UL Proposed Organization](#)

Comments to the Good of the Order

Good job Lauryn!

Adjournment 3:53pm

Harmony Newman
Chair