

## ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, April 7, 2025  
2:30p.m. | UC Council Room

### *Minutes*

Present: Benedict, Kyle, Larson, Leatherman, Leonard, Matchett, Muller, Newman, Paytoe Gbayee

Zoom: Allen, Cieminski, Gershwin

Absent: Bolon

Call to Order 2:30pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objection

Approval of March 24, 2025, meeting minutes approved without objection

Announcements/Chair's Report (Newman) – No report.

### Reports from Councils

Graduate Council (Cieminski) – The council met recently and is moving forward with a proposal to reduce the credit for full-time (FT) and part-time (PT) graduate student, working with the registrar and financial aid this could be implemented in Fall 2026. The policy will define part-time status as 3–5 credits and full-time status as 6+ credits. The change will not require any program-level adjustments it may affect financial aid eligibility and international student status. The council finished up their bylaws and will be sent to Codification. They are also seeking new members.

Liberal Arts Council (Muller) – Annual Contributions Memos have been sent to all Academic Units with courses in the Liberal Arts Curriculum. Memos sent to MCB, PVA, and SCI re discipline-specific writing courses needing to be converted from LAW2/CO2 to LAW3/CO3 courses to remain in the Curriculum by AY 28-29. Philosophy and the Arts Curriculum Category Committee gave a full Indirect Syllabus Review Report. One course syllabus did not meet requirements in Final Review and so will need to resubmit the course for approval to remain in the Curriculum beyond AY 25-26. History, Literature, and the Humanities CCC reported initial reviews. They will have a full report along with Social and Behavioral Sciences and Math and Natural Sciences at the meeting on 4/15. We are considering adding a requirement for course approval to include a document covering the unit's plan to ensure all teaching syllabi meet LAC/gtP requirements. Voted to restrict 3 credit lab course SCI 265 to ELED majors due to complications around having a three-credit science with a lab in the Curriculum. Voted to recommend approving a one-time student exception around Science Category credits due to an advising error. OIRE will pilot the LAC's indirect assessment student survey in LAC courses taught this summer.

Professional Education Council (Paytoe Gbayee) – PEC is considering whether the Undergraduate Council (UGC) and Graduate Council (GC) should have an official advisory role on the council or be invited to meetings. The council has decided to keep its current size and are working with Housing to better understand how policy changes affect students, particularly those in student teaching. Work is ongoing across various committees. The

council is still working on their bylaws and those will be ready by next fall. They are working on syllabus revisions for licensure-specific courses and are planning to meet with the curriculum group to discuss thorough syllabus reviews. The Cumbres received a \$50,000 foundation grant along with additional funding from the Weld Trust to move classrooms to the Inspire Center. Reauthorization visits are currently in progress.

Undergraduate Council (Larson) – UGC is meeting tomorrow and will be electing a new chair and vice-chair. They will discuss on interdisciplinary studies program and representatives for the on Lucile Harrison award. They will also be discussing the council's role in the undergraduate commencement speaker process for the future, making any bylaw and board policy manual updates.

Student Government Association (Bolon) – No report

### Special Reports

#### Special Order

- **Academic Policies Committee Officer Nominations**
  - Chair nominee – Tracy Gershwin (self-nominated)
  - Vice – Chair – Judy Leatherman (self-nominated)
  - Elections will be held at the next meeting

#### New Business

- **General Education Foundation Skills Credential (i.e., LAC “badge”)** ([folder with documents](#))
  - The LAC is supportive of this credential.
  - [LAC Talking Points](#)
  - [Chronicle article on credentialing](#)
  - The credential will be “Transcript award” since there is no badging tool at the moment.
    - Once we do have a badging tool it will be transitioned to a badge.
  - When students complete the 31 credits, it will be noted on their transcript and they will receive a letter.
  - For transfer students with an associate's degree, they can receive the credential if they take SBS 2 and SBS 3, otherwise they will need to take an IS or MS course from UNC
    - It won't be an automatic path and out of state transfers may not align.
  - The Registrar's Office clarified this won't be a heavy lift and will be able to implement.
    - This could be implemented as early as Spring 2026.
  - The Micro-Credentials Committee has not yet met, and no schools currently offer this type of transcript award.
  - Early evidence suggests this type of recognition motivates students, especially:
    - Those who began their college career but did not finish a degree.
    - In recruitment efforts by highlighting milestones.
  - Micro-credentials are not eligible for financial aid.
    - They will not be awarded as standalone certificates or degrees.

- They will be embedded within a degree program and cannot be declared as a separate credential.

### Unfinished Business

- **Amorous Relations Policy** ([folder with documents](#))
  - [Amorous Policy](#)
  - Review and review new draft
  - Submit to Faculty Welfare?
  - Newman used Benedict's suggestions to tighten prohibited relationships for students.
  - Any existing relationship between faculty and a student involving a power differential must be disclosed and will be monitored by HR and the appropriate supervisor.
    - It was noted that authority can exist beyond the classroom, not just through being their instructor.
    - Conflicts of interest should also be disclosed and monitored.
    - It was suggested that when they disclose, they should have some training as well
  - If examples are given people will think they are only limited to those examples.
    - Examples will be removed
  - Addressing having an existing relationship with a person of trust before taking the course
  - It is important for students to have protection when needed
  - In E.1.b remove "with power differentials"
    - Including safeguards, such as periodic check-ins
  - It was agreed that there should a separate HR policy to address employee-student relationships distinct from this policy.
  - Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
- **Rules of Procedure** ([folder with documents](#))
  - [Draft of Rules of Procedure](#)
  - Review and revise new draft
  - 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."
- **Curriculum Standards Recommendations** ([folder with documents](#))
  - Certificate description and residency requirements
  - "The provost feels very strongly that students must take some courses at UNC to earn a certificate from us. This can be fleshed out wherever we discuss residency requirements."
  - [Drafted new language for the catalog](#)
- **NHS proposal for Undergraduate Grader** ([folder with documents](#))
  - [NHS proposal for Undergraduate Grader](#)
  - This policy will live in the IM&T policy library
  - IM&T was able to make it where faculty can make automated grading a default, which can be changed.

- The student will have to be enrolled in an internship or directive study credits and cannot be free labor.
- Instructors will indicate if they will be paid or receive credits and they will not get access until all paperwork is submitted per BOMS request.
- What is the difference between a directive study and a non-scheduled course?
  - Non-scheduled courses must follow a syllabus/
- Remove “which will be approved” since it will be the instructor approving the specific responsibilities.
  - Both directive studies and internships will go through the normal approval processes.
- A signed agreement stating that the student will be paid or receive credit will be sufficient.
  - “...uploaded to the Canvas Request form” will serve as the agreement and full directive study report will not be needed.
- MOTION: Newman moves to approve the policy as written and move it to IM&T for implementation.
- VOTE: Motion approved unanimously

#### New Business on hold

- **Build Catalog template and review of concentrations**

#### Unfinished Business on hold

- **Graduate Student Full-time vs. Part-time Status**
- **University Libraries Unit Organization**
  - [UL Proposed Organization](#)
- **S/U Grading Policy**
  - Add note from Registrar: *(Note: The S/U grading policy supersedes program level grade requirements where pre-requisites are above a letter grade of "C-".)*
  - Add note for Nursing: From Nursing: S/U grades may have an impact on eligibility for graduate school, or *professional school or licensure programs such as nursing*. Students should...

#### Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment 3:49pm

Harmony Newman  
Chair