

## ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, February 28, 2022  
2:30p.m. | UC Council Room

### MINUTES

**Present:** Benedict, Couch, Franklin (Dineen), Matchett, Pullen (Han), Vaughan, Wieben, Wood, Yu

**Absent:** Benavidez, Brewer, Kraver, Zaghawan

**Guests:** Fischer, Heiny, Larson, LaSota, Levin

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:31pm.

#### Approval of the Agenda

Approved with a change in the order of business to discuss the BOAC item first after Special Reports.

#### Approval of the January 31, 2022 meeting minutes

Approved without objection.

#### Announcements/Chair's Report

#### Reports from Councils:

Graduate Council (Brewer) – No Report.

Liberal Arts Council (Wood) – We are implementing indirect assessment and looking at the selection process for the Summer Bridge program LAC course offering.

Professional Education Council (Kraver) – The State legislature is considering HB22 1220: Removing Barriers to Educator Preparation; the bill addresses financial obstacles teacher candidates face.

Undergraduate Council (Dineen) – UGC also discussed the Summer Bridge program. There is ongoing discussion about the creation of a permanent S/U grading option; we may have something to share after UGC's March meeting.

Student Senate (Benavidez) – No Report.

#### Special Reports

- **NR Grading Usage Policy update** (Registrar)
  - Couch presented as an information item a change to the grading policy of the Graduate catalog to remove the use of the “NR” grade; this update is required to become compliant with a change to Federal Student Aid policy.
  - The use of “NR” does not reflect successful completion for respective course(s) and is not considered a passing grade/successful completion toward Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) per Federal Student Aid policy.
  - UNC is moving toward the use of “S” and “U” grading for courses that utilize “NR” grading practices.
  - As the Federal policy clarification was implemented July 1, 2021, we are applying the change this semester and updating “NR” grades from impacted 2021 semesters.

#### Unfinished Business

- **Permanent S/U Grading Policy** – *on hold*
- **Posthumous Degrees**

- The committee reviewed the recommended changes from Codification.
- The revised policy language must be mirrored in the relevant sections of the university catalog.

MOTION: Benedict – It is moved to accept Codification’s recommendations as presented and bring the policy to Faculty Senate.

VOTE: Approved by voice vote.

- **Enrollment Status/Intensive English Program**

- Couch presented revised language that addresses both the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Members made the following recommendations:
  - List the specific federal regulation, instead of linking the citation.
  - Add a row/column in the enrollment status chart for IEP to provide a clear visual reference.
- Couch will make further revisions and return the proposal to APC at a later meeting.

New Business

- **Missed Classes/University-Sponsored Activities (BOAC)**

- Larson and Fischer presented an initial draft of a clarifying paragraph to add to the attendance policy in Board Policy to address students who miss class activities due to their participation in university-sponsored activities.
  - Placement: 2-3-402(1)(b)(I) for On-Campus Programs and 2-3-402(2)(b)(I) for Off-Campus Programs
- The proposal arose from the Board of Athletic Control (BOAC) but would include any university-sponsored activities, not just athletics.

DISCUSSION:

- Considerations:
  - Clarification beyond what is already listed as to what is considered a university-sponsored activity (e.g., field experiences, conferences)
  - Perhaps coaches/staff could provide notice of approved activities, as well as students providing notification
- Members discussed what is considered reasonable accommodation.
  - For example, some faculty build into their classes a policy to drop the lowest graded *x*-number of assignments/tests. This is considered a reasonable accommodation if the policy is equitably applied to classes missed for any reason (e.g., sickness, activities).
- Levin noted that the catalog already has language concerning attendance, including a paragraph regarding students involved in university-sponsored activities; see <https://unco.smartcatalogiq.com/Current/Undergraduate-Catalog/Undergraduate-Information-and-Policies/Student-Policies-and-Procedures/Attendance>.
- As currently written, there is room for disagreement regarding attendance policies as listed in Board Policy and expectations listed in the catalog.
- Perhaps Board Policy could be updated to be consistent with the catalog language or simply refer to the relevant policy in the catalog.
- Perhaps 2-3-402 can be amended to include language to say that instructors are responsible for maintaining policies consistent with the catalog.

- Fischer will work with Levin to revise Board Policy language and work with the BOAC to review catalog language/propose any revisions as appropriate.
- **Senate bylaws, Article V – The Academic Policies Committee**
  - The Codification committee is reviewing/revising Faculty Senate bylaws and asked each Senate committee to review their respective section.
    - Codification will be updating the language throughout the bylaws to use inclusive pronouns (e.g., changing “his/her” to “their”).

DISCUSSION:

- In section A., the chairs of UGC, GC, LAC, and PEC are denoted as members; it would be consistent with practice and provide flexibility to add “or their designee” to that section.
- In section D., consider the following edits:
- D. The APC shall receive and review bi-weekly ~~and annual~~ reports and policy recommendations from the University's UGC, GC, LAC, and PEC. Recommendations on the approval of ~~these reports and~~ policy issues shall be prepared for consideration by the Senate.
  - Consider whether to keep/revise section F:
- F. The APC chair or designee from the committee shall serve as a representative of the Senate on the advisory committees of the CAO.
  - Currently, the Senate chair attends the Deans Council and the Academic Affairs Leadership Team as the Senate’s representative.
  - Also, the chairs of both APC and Faculty Welfare are currently serving on the Academic Covid Responsiveness Group.
  - The committee will continue review at a later meeting.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.

Angela Vaughan  
Chair

Betsy Kienitz  
Recording Secretary