

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

January 12, 2021, 3:30pm

Remote Meeting - Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Castro, Couch, Dineen, Franklin, Fulton, Hawkinson, Klein, Matchett, McClatchey, Medina, Park, Tucker

Absent: Fitzpatrick, Rose, Somero, Withrow, Zukiewicz

Guests: Torrez, Wood

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:35pm.

Approval of Agenda

Approved without objection.

Approval of Minutes 12-08-20

Approved without objection.

Chair's Report/Announcements (Dineen)

- Vickers interdisciplinary studies proposal was confirmed via email vote after the December meeting.
- Consider volunteering for the commencement speaker subcommittee.
 - Fulton volunteers to spearhead the committee.
 - Hawkinson will also join.
- The Name in Use catalog updates will be going to APC and Faculty Senate next week.

Reports from Councils

- **LAC (Franklin)** – No Report.
- **Assessment Council (Park)** – The Council met yesterday; topics included conference funding for faculty/staff, assessment mini grants, and HLC learning outcomes.

Special Reports

Unfinished Business

- **Prior UNC degree credit applicability**
 - Couch - No new development at this time.
- **S/U grading**
 - APC will be taking on the issue; Dineen will reach out to Toewe to see how UGC can assist.
 - Matchett and Couch will compile data on S/U grade selections to share with the Council.
 - Policy parameters such as selection deadlines, conditions of eligibility, and limitations/exclusions must be carefully considered.
 - Faculty, Advising, and other campus stakeholders should be consulted before a revised policy is finalized.
 - Any changes approved this term would go into effect for the next catalog year.

- Council members are encouraged to engage their colleagues in conversation about the implications of establishing a permanent S/U grading option and share any feedback/concerns.
- **Individual Withdrawal deadline**
 - The Integrated Network Council (INC) supports aligning withdrawal deadlines and pushing the deadline later in the semester.
 - Couch confirmed there is no financial impact associated with changing the withdrawal deadline; there is no impact on refunds as those align with the census date.
 - The Bursar's Office and Financial Aid are supportive of the suggested changes.
 - The Council agrees with the Registrar's Office recommendation to align the Individual and Complete Withdrawal deadlines and move them to 95% of the term.

New Business

- **Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) course question from English**
 - Tara Wood is seeking feedback on the English department's grading policy as it relates to SAI courses.
 - Background: ENG 132 is the supplemental course paired with ENG 122.
 - It is currently a letter graded course taught by the same instructor as the primary course; all the curriculum is directly connected to the primary course.
 - ENG 132 is *not* a required co-requisite to ENG 122; it is recommended to students based on placement, high school GPA, and/or standardized test scores.
 - Students choose to register; even when SAI is recommended, it is not required.
 - Issue: When a student fails ENG 132 but passes ENG 122
 - As a letter grade, the failure in the SAI course negatively impacts GPA.
 - The Council discussed options including:
 - making SAI courses S/U instead of letter graded
 - combining/averaging the ENG 132 and ENG 122 grades
 - coming changes to the withdrawal policy and/or S/U grading options may relieve the issue in future semesters, as students would be able to withdraw from or change the grading scheme of the course
 - Ultimately, it the department's discretion whether to change the policy and how.
- **Exam proctoring**
 - Matchett presented an initial draft online proctoring policy. Academic Affairs is seeking feedback from various campus stakeholders to aid in their decision.
 - UGC, GC, and APC will be consulted.
 - Although the issue impacts academics, it's also a resource/budget issue.

- Online proctoring is expensive, and the cost of centrally supported proctoring would require reallocation of funds from other university functions.
- Additionally, the trend in academic literature is moving away from online proctoring toward authentic assessment.
 - UNC needs to have a policy in place by new academic year.
 - The current contract ends June 30, 2021.
- Tucker asked that the draft be sent to DRC in case they have recommendations to meet accessibility requirements.
- Hawkinson asked that Biology be looped in the discussion as the decision will have a large impact on the department.
- Council members discussed issues concerning academic integrity, class sizes, and expanding online options.
- Matchett asked members to have conversations with their colleagues and provide feedback/recommendations/concerns.

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Rachel Dineen
Chair

Betsy Kienitz
Recording Secretary