Education Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: February 12, 2021

Members: ~~Thomas Hanford~~, Maaike Oldemans, Abby Thomas, Carol VanDerKarr, Chris Widdall, Eric Edlund, ~~Lindsey Darvin~~, Jeffrey Walkuski, Margaret Gichuru, Alyson Dearie, Laura Dunbar, Kristen Gielenfeldt, Jessica Liberty

Members Absent: Hanford, Darvin

Guests:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Comments/Discussion** | **Action** |
| **Approval of Minutes** | Minutes reviewed. No discussion. | **Prior minutes accepted.** |
|  |  |  |
| **Old Business** | Minor/Concentration Document: changes passed by Faculty Senate; however, Robert Darling questioned why the definition of a “concentration” was removed. Group discussion concluded that the definition was removed for ease of use and reduced duplication as it appears elsewhere (in the terminology guide, per Thomas). | **Proposed addition of a hyperlink to be discussed.** (Addition of same would probably not require another approval by Faculty Senate, but Widdall to confirm) |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **New Business** | **Three EPC Tasks for the Spring 2021 Semester** |  |
|  | Task 1. Review of Final Examination Policy (FEP) | **Subcommittee formed: Widdall, Thom Hanford, and Nancy Diller committee will report next meeting.** |
|  | Background: Longstanding (pre-Covid) concerns center on   * whether there should be an official, campus-wide mandated exam week or whether faculty should be able to set-up their own flexible final exam schedule (eg., lab-oriented courses) and activities (eg., BFA critique and review) * whether the FEP should be eliminated altogether, as many faculty do not comply * whether it is copies of final exams or actual student responses to same that need to be kept by departments   Tasks for EPC:   1. Identify and revise confusing catalog language around FEP for clarity 2. Make suggestions for revision(s) to longer-term FEP |  |
|  | Task 2. Course Reset Policy (CRP) | **Subcommittee formed: ?** |
|  | Background: The CRP is designed to allow some students (eg., those returning to campus after an extended absence) to remove those courses which negatively affect their GPAs, thereby “resetting” their GPA (though the course(s) in question will remain on their student record).  Tasks for EPC:   1. Gather information about best practices for implementing and managing a CRP, emphasizing timelines and implications for students (especially financial aid and scholarships) 2. Identify, revise, and propose crucial definitions (eg., extenuating circumstances) |  |
|  | Task 3. Finalize Document on Academic Grievance Policy  Background: Work begun last semester  Task for EPC:   1. Finalize language and policy clarifications & recommendations | **Committee formed: Edlund, Walkuski, Melissa, Jessica, Kristen, and Eunice Miller to be invited**  **Committee will report to EPC in 4 weeks** |
| **Adjourned** | 11:00 a.m.  Respectfully submitted by Laura Dunbar  February 16, 2021 |  |