Education Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2017

Members Present: Timothy Delaune, Holly Doty, Dominque Hines, Mary-Jo Morse, Maaike Oldemans , Abby Thomas, Carol Van Der Karr, Chris Widdall

Guest: Thom Hanford

Members Absent: Regina Grantham, Deborah Van Langen

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| **Topic** | **Comments/Discussion** | **Action** |
| **Approval of Minutes** | Minutes from 2/1/17 were approved with one minor change to the information on residency requirement  |  |
| **Residency Requirement** | * Approved by Faculty Senate and then approved by the President.
* Ginny will be sending an email to the campus (on behalf of the president) highlighting this update to the community
* EPC to draft something for Ginny to send out
* Draft to highlight the new policy was vetted and approved by faculty senate
 | **Chris to create first draft and share with the committee for feedback** |
| **A+ grade discussion** | * Thom Hanford attended meeting to participate in this discussion
* Reviewed previous research of A+ grades from other institutions
* Cortland only SUNY using a 4.3 scale
* Waiting on data from IR regarding how many people are awarded A+ grades and from what majors
* A+ grades might not help students in the way that we think it does
* Some faculty don’t believe in awarding A+ and can disadvantage some students, because they are not all working off of the same scale
* Honor societies that are based on top X% can disadvantage students who are in programs that don’t give out A+
* Graduate entrance exams normalize our students GPA down from a 4.3 to a 4.0 scale, this can disadvantage our students
* Proposing to make a change effective 2018 – 2019 for both undergraduate and graduate grading
* Four options were discussed:
1. Simply retire the A+ and return to 4.0 scale
2. A+ would remain as an honors, but would carry the A quality points of 4.0 (most favorable)
3. Keep A+ grade, but make it 4.0 quality points and adjust the rest of the quality points (least desirable)
4. Keep it the way it is: A+ 4.3 scale
* Maintaining the A+ as honorary is desirable; on par with S, U, H (H is same as S, just shows honors)
* Technical implementation: honor prior grades, once passed by faculty senate, give a year to let students and faculty know the change is coming
 | **Update: Holly shared A+ grade distribution from IR****Abby to work on a draft proposal**  |
| **T grade to meet minimum and prerequisite grade** | * Currently out for vetting
* Received some feedback
* Clarification that this is not changing transfer credit policies and is not about disadvantaging first-year students
* Will wait until vetting closes on Friday to provide feedback
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| **AGT** | We will continue to work on edits as time permits |  |
| **Forgiveness policy** | Abby will work on pulling together information from other schools and ideas that were discussed at previous meetings with other folks on campus  |  |

Submitted by Abby Thomas