

Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee Minutes—October 24, 2019

Present (voting): Wendy Cook, Eric Foch, Dan Lipori, Megan Matheson, Andy Piascek, Josh Welsh

Present (non-voting): David Douglas, Gail Mackin, Rose Spodobalski-Brower, Julia Stringfellow

Absent (voting): Jackie Krause, Ke Zhong

Absent (non-voting): None

Guests: none

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. Minutes of October 10, 2019 were approved as written.

Chair Updates

Subgroups for longer charges have been organized. Megan and Josh met with Gail earlier today to work on Charge 14 (attendance policy). This charge may be ready for review at the next AAC meeting. A memo from PESHM was also received regarding the attendance policy. The memo will be discussed at today's meeting. Josh, Julia, and Dan met with Kevin Archer to review the graduate studies policies. Josh and Andy will be meeting with representatives from Student Success to discuss the appeals policy.

Old Business

a. Charge 02: Other Forms of Credit (Feedback and Visit from the Provost)

EC met with Provost Franken yesterday. She made some suggestions for grammatical changes in the introductory paragraph of 5-90-030(4), in addition to changing "remedial" to "developmental" in 5-90-030(4)(G)3. These changes do not affect the meaning of the policy, but only intend to make the language read clearly. AAC reviewed the changes and made additional suggestions:

- in the introductory paragraph in (4), strike College in the High School and Running Start; remove parenthesis and include "such as" to begin the list; spell out AP, CLEP, and IB when they are first used, but include the abbreviations in parenthesis; add CLEP to the new language proposed from the Provost.

- in (A), replace the last sentence with "Standards for acceptance of AP credit will be established by appropriate academic departments or program and listed in the official catalog."

- in (C), add "of IB credit" following "Standards of acceptance..."

- in (C), change "5" to "4" in the last sentence

All changes were approved. The policy will be returned to EC to determine if Faculty Senate review is needed again.

b. Charge 04: IP and Incomplete Grades in relation to Financial Aid

Josh talked with Lidia Anderson in IS. Faculty only have the option of entering "IP" or "I" grades, and no longer have the ability to enter comments and/or additional information.

Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

c. Charge 06: Graduate Studies policies

Work on this charge will be tabled for the time being. Discussion will continue after Josh, Julia, and Dan are able to consult with Kevin Archer again.

5. New Business

a. Charge 05: Remove obsolete procedures related to the foreign language requirement

Policies in 5-90-030 and 5-90-050 have been updated to reflect changes with the new Gen Ed program, but some procedures in 2-90-030 haven't been updated to match. As a result, those procedures are now obsolete and need to be reviewed to make sure they align with current policies. While Charge 05 specifically addresses CWUR 2-90-020, there appears to be other language in CWUP 5-90-030 and CWUP 5-90-50 that may need to be changed as well. There may also be language in other areas of policy. EC's suggestion in the charge is to strike 2-90-20(3)(C) & (D).

Andy moved to strike "or foreign language requirements" from 5-90-030(2)(B). Changes were approved.

Additional changes were proposed:

- in 2-90-020(3)(B), add "and the foreign language graduation requirement" to the end of the sentence.

- in 2-90-020(3)(D), change "admission" to "graduation"

- strike 2-90-020(3)(C) completely; (D) becomes (C).

All changes were approved.

b. Memo from PESHM addressing ongoing concerns about Attendance policy

PESHM (PE, School Health, and Movement Studies) contacted EC with a memo discussing ongoing concerns surrounding the Class Attendance Policy. PESHM would like to have language put into policy to require faculty to make accommodations for students who must miss class for other university-related events or obligations, such as sports events, music performances, or club-related events. Representatives from PESHM attended a recent open EC meeting and presented survey data from faculty and students in their department, in addition to the written memo. The existing attendance policy is cited incorrectly in the memo, although this may be an oversight.

This issue arises every few years and comes to AAC. Most faculty and/or departments already make accommodations without anything being written into policy. Only a small number are not doing it, and to make it required would put an extra burden on faculty. If students continue to communicate with faculty, and faculty continue to post assignments far enough in advance, then it should be possible for students to make arrangements. It is not feasible to make this a requirement and put language into policy.

Josh will draft a response to the memo and bring to next meeting to get feedback.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Nov. 7, 2019

Barge 304