

Educational Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 3:00 PM

Attendance: **Gunter (Chair); Mary Beth Deily (COB); Katrina Zalatan (COB); Henry Odi (DEI); Ginny McSwain (CAS); Linda Bell (RAS); Susan Szczepanski (CAS); Lori McClaind (SA); Sabrina Jedlicka (RCEAS); Brenden Huegel (student, RCEAS); Tong Soon Lee (CAS); Brook Sawyer (COE); Eduardo Gomez (COH); Hal Skinner (COH); Natasha Vermaak (RCEAS); Paul Salerni (CAS); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Santiago Delgado (student, CAS); Nicholas Coscarelli (graduate student, CAS); Matt Hornung (student, COB); Steven Wilson (Registrar, committee secretary).**

1. Approve minutes of September 9th Meeting

Approved without amendment.

2. Announcements (Gunter)

- a. Gunter noted that students have expressed boredom with remote learning, and he described successful on-campus class, allowing for several dozen willing and available students to interact in-person (safely, in Packard 101). Gunter suggested that faculty may want to schedule such face-to-face meetings from time-to-time.
- b. Gunter and Odi stated that a new DEI campus plan has been developed and will be shared in due course, but must first be approved by board of trustees.

3. Schedule course and curriculum approval meeting (Gunter)

Gunter will communicate with members to find new regular meeting time for C&C.

4. Proposed revision to **R&P 3.10 Scholastic Probation** (Gunter)

Gunter summarized updated language based on committee suggestions (version 11, attached to agenda). Discussion by committee.

- a. SOS representatives (Bell, McClaind, Szczepanski) offered perspective from the standpoint of setting/removing probation each term. Several questioned the need for keeping a 2.2 term GPA limit. Overall 2.0 GPA proposed as alternative limit to meet intent of the revision. Agreed generally.
- b. Editorial proposal to reorganize sections for more logical flow. Agreed generally.
- c. Progress towards degree, measured by credit hours earned. Szczepanski suggested that progress be measured annually, not each term. Bell and Zalatan suggested changing proposed credit limits (23-53-83, derived from student handbook) to make proposal consistent/parallel with rules for standing. Vote on specific numbers: 24-48-72 preferred by majority.
- d. Deily proposed describing meeting the targets as making “minimal progress” rather than “good progress.” Agreed.

- e. Proposed new language (subsection 11). Discussion: Should discretion of SOS be specified in this proposal, or assumed? Members generally support removal of the new paragraph. Gunter agreed to remove from updated proposal.

Gunter to revise (as version 12) for discussion and consideration at a future meeting.

5. Provost challenges (reference August 26, 2020 Ed Pol Meeting)

Polls question value of higher education. What can Lehigh do?

General discussion of the question (paraphrased): is the brick-and-mortar college an expensive dinosaur? What is the value of traditional residential and full-time university experience? Student representatives offered their personal perspectives. McClaind stated that Allen Snyder is leading a university task force asking similar questions, and suggested inviting him for discussion in future meetings.

Adjourned 4:25 PM.

The following items listed below will be carried forward for discussion at next meeting.

Provost challenges (August 26, 2020 Ed Pol Meeting)

- a. *What can Lehigh do to meet the challenges of diversity, equity, and inclusion?*
- b. *Covid-19 issues including online learning, non-traditional students, and value of residential experience?*

Student Senate proposal to allow student to miss week's worth of classes without penalty.

R&P Section 3 clean-up.

R&P 3.2.1 Changes in Curricula and Courses: correct approval route?

R&P 3.8.1 Definitions of Grades: add CR/DCR/NCR?

R&P 3.8.4 Drop/Add Period: change withdrawal date from 11th to 12th week?

R&P 3.14.3 P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science: is HSS requirement still relevant?

Should there be a policy on notetaking/homework assistance sites such as Chegg and Bartleby? (Jensen)

Discussion of online teaching standards and evaluation.

HU/SS designation for external internships (Szczepanski)

*Proposed revision to **R&P 3.7.3.1 Final Examinations** for cases where an emergency requires the cancelation of scheduled final exams. (Guest: Brian Chen)*

Necessity for a written policy regarding excuses from exams due to athletic competitions.

Sample letter to enable faculty to formative student assessment in the first 3 or 4 weeks of the semester.

Discussion of whether there should be a limit on the number of credentials a student should be permitted to earn. (RAS)