

Educational Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 3:00 PM

Attendance: Frank Gunter (Chair); Mary Beth Deily (COB); Ginny McSwain (CAS); Linda Bell (RAS); Susan Szczepanski (CAS); Brook Sawyer (COE); Eduardo Gomez (COH); Paul Salerni (CAS); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Santiago Delgado (student, CAS); Matt Hornung (student, COB); Erica Hoelscher (COH); Jennifer Jensen (Provost's Office); Nicholas Coscarelli (graduate student, CAS); John Klikushin (student, RCEAS); Lina Rodriguez (guest, GCP); Steven Wilson (Registrar, secretary).

Zoom address: <https://lehigh.zoom.us/j/94546950876>

1. Approve minutes of April 14, 2021 Meeting

Approved without amendment.

2. Chairperson announcements (Gunter)

- a. Next C&C Subcommittee Meeting is Wednesday, May 5, 2021, at 3 - 4 PM.
- b. Any C&C Changes received after April 1st must include:
 - i. For any new courses including courses offered previously on a provisional basis, a short statement in section: "Impact on Available Resources: Faculty" e.g. "Yes, taught by new adjunct" or "Yes, taught overload by tenured track" or "No, taught in-load by term faculty".
 - ii. If the course title or description refer to one or more issues of diversity, equity, or inclusion, this will be noted in section: "Academic Impact: Does adding this course affect the University's commitment to diversity in any way?"

3. Approval of UG Course & Curriculum Changes for College of Education (Gunter)

- a. "The Global Citizenship Program prepares students to cultivate an ethical stance, a critical way of thinking, and a committed mode of intervening in a world populated by others who we may not know but with whom we must co-create a viable future. The program welcomes students from across the colleges and from any major." (Lehigh website)
- b. "The Global Citizenship Initiative is an interdisciplinary certificate that structures educational experiences which enable students to negotiate international boundaries and develop their own sense of personal, social and corporate responsibility to the global community as an engineer, a businessperson, artist or a social or natural scientist." (Lehigh website)
- c. Proposed approval route for course/curriculum changes:
CoE ⇒ IC ⇒ Ed Pol C&C ⇒ Ed Pol ⇒ ASA ⇒ Registrar

Discussion: GC (an undergraduate program) was inadvertently “orphaned” when it was moved under College of Education (primarily graduate); GC lacked effective representation in IC and C&C processes. The change will be a technical adjustment in CIM workflow, and does not change R&P. The proposal passed by unanimous voice vote. The Registrar will make the necessary changes.

4. Election of Educational Policy Chair-Elect

- a. “The (Educational Policy) committee is responsible for the study of the university curriculum, long-range academic plans, and undergraduate academic rules and regulations. The committee will make appropriate recommendations to the president and the Faculty Senate.” (R&P 1.3.2.1, Para. 1)
- b. “One of the elected faculty members shall chair the committee. At the final meeting of the spring term, the committee shall elect one of the faculty members as chair-elect for the coming year. Both the chair and chair-elect take office on July 1.” (R&P 1.3.2.1, Para. 4)
- c. Mary Beth Deily is the current Chair-elect and will become Ed Pol Chair on July 1, 2021
- d. Ed Pol Faculty members eligible for election to Chair-elect:
 - i. Paul Salerni (CAS)
 - ii. Brook Sawyer (COE)
 - iii. Ed Gomez (CoH)
 - iv. Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS)

Sawyer and Salerni proposed to share the role during the next academic year as available, while splitting the duties for SOS attendance as follows: Sawyer in fall, Salerni in spring. The arrangement was approved by committee voice vote.

Adjourned 3:38 PM.

Items listed below will be carried forward for discussion at the next meeting, if possible.

Diversity and Inclusion (DI)

Rationale: As part of the antiracism program approved by the Board of Trustees, Lehigh committed itself to “include issues of race, racism, class, gender, religion, law, and challenge students to identify and critically analyze their own stereotypes and biases.” (September 24, 2020; Paragraph 22). Also, “What can Lehigh do to meet the challenges of diversity, equity, and inclusion?” was one of the Provost challenges to Ed Pol. (See minutes for August 26, 2020 Ed Pol Meeting.)

Each of the Colleges has made substantial progress in integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion into their undergraduate programs. This leads to several questions.

- a) *Should College DEI efforts be incorporated into the University plan? If so, how?*
- b) *What is the proper Ed Pol role in the University effort to meeting the Trustees DEI commitment?*
- c) *Should the University have a required undergraduate course in diversity?*

Teaching Evaluations

Currently, student evaluations of teaching are the primary or only means of evaluating the quality of undergraduate teaching. There is a growing literature that such evaluations are often biased, fail to provide information that would lead to teaching improvements, and do not provide an accurate and reliable way of identifying exceptional teachers. In addition, the move to online teaching as well as the creation of term teaching faculty raise other challenges to teaching evaluations. Should Ed Pol examine alternatives to student evaluations? If so, what is the best way to proceed with examining these issues? (Note that R&P is silent on the subject of teaching evaluations.)

Ed Pol members who were on the committee prior to Covid-19 may remember that this topic was not only discussed but Ed Pol was considering the attached addition to R&P. However, since it has been more than a year and there has been changes in Ed Pol membership, should we begin the discussion where we left off or start again?

What is the best way to notify the faculty of the implications of the proliferation of notetaking/homework assistance sites such as Chegg, EduBirdie, TAFaculty, Course Hero, and Bartleby? (Jensen, Taylor)

Recommended text for student academic integrity statement: The use of Bartleby, Chegg, Course Hero, EduBirdie, etc. is not allowed during quizzes, tests, or examinations.

Provost challenges (August 26, 2020 Ed Pol Meeting)

- v. *Polls question value of higher education. What can Lehigh do?*
- vi. *What can Lehigh do to meet the challenges of diversity, equity, and inclusion?*
- vii. *Covid-19 issues including online learning, non-traditional students, and value of residential experience?*

Discussion of guidelines for undergraduate Internships and Experiential Learning. (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)