

**Educational Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Wednesday, December 2, at 3:00 PM**

**Attendance:** Frank 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); Tong Soon Lee (CAS); Brook Sawyer (COE); Eduardo Gomez (COH); Christine Daley (COH); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Paul Salerni (CAS); Santiago Delgado (student, CAS); Matt Hornung (student, COB); Jennifer Jensen (Provost Office); Steven Wilson (Registrar, secretary).

1. Approve minutes of November 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**Approved without objection or amendment.**

2. Chairperson announcements (Gunter)

- a. Next C&C Subcommittee Meeting is Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 3 PM.
- b. R&P 3.10: Probation proposal scheduled to receive its second Senate on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Provost announced CR/DCR/NCR for Fall Semester 2020, but students must choose this option no later than December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Students in different time zones should be able to take the final exam between 8 AM and 12 AM (midnight).

3. Zero-credit course offerings (Gunter)

**Context: current zero-credit offerings in the online catalog:**

Music Department, Private Lessons: “Lessons in most instruments and voice may be taken for one credit per semester; students may also enroll for no credit to avoid overloading. Lessons must be arranged through the department at set fees that are not included in tuition.”

Biological Science, Safety and Security Guidelines: “Document your training and retraining on safety and good practices. New members of the Department should attend the series “Responsible Conduct of Science” at the first opportunity. Graduate students should register for this as BioS 408, a zero-credit course that will appear on the transcript.”

ISE, Requirements and Prerequisite Map: “ISE 100 - Industrial Employment An internship experience that must be completed for zero credits.”

**Zero Credit Proposal:**

R&P 3.1.3 Course Credit . . . Paragraph 9: Zero-credit courses will only be an option for lessons and ensembles in the Music Department, courses on lab safety, and paid or required internships.

**General discussion ensued, with members and representatives expressing opinions on both sides of the question. Concerns raised about potential proliferation of zero-credit beyond “traditional” Lehigh practice (as above, with the best example in the music department). Gunter proposed consideration of proposal for discussion at upcoming meeting.**

4. Student Senate proposal (March 5, 2019) to allow each student to miss one week’s worth of classes without penalty. (Hornung)

**Context: R&P 3.2.5 discusses attendance**

**Relevant language: “. . . 2) For officially approved field trips, athletic contests, or extracurricular activities, a report is provided to each instructor describing the schedule and listing the names of students authorized to participate.”<sup>[P]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>**

**The resolution (attached) was not acted upon when first submitted, apparently due to lack of consensus after committee discussion (see EdPol minutes of April 17, 2019).**

**Student Senate requests consideration of the proposal in a timely fashion, as faculty practice is not standardized or supported by clear policy. The absence of policy creates confusion and potential inequity.**

**Issue substantially affects athletes, and this is the focus of the resolution. Discussion noted that other varieties of students (arts performers, club members, religious observers, etc.) could be impacted, as well. Discussion by faculty of difficulty of accommodating the wider sorts of students. Challenges and concerns about maintaining faculty flexibility versus clarity and equitable application. Various examples propounded by committee members.**

**Hornung noted that students will benefit from having a clear, written policy to rely upon in discussion with faculty who are resistant to accommodations for small numbers of students. Gunter proposed discussing this issue with the executive committee, as a part of faculty code of ethic, with a suggestion that he return with those views at an upcoming meeting.**

5. R&P Section 3 Clean Up: R&P 3.2.1 Changes in Curricula and Courses (Gunter)

**Context: correct approval route?**

Text to be deleted is ~~struck out~~, new text in **red**: “Once proposed changes have received Senate Subcommittee on Academic and Student Affairs approval, the ~~faculty secretary~~ **Subcommittee Chairperson** notifies the Registrar to ensure that such changes are incorporated in the university catalog.”

**Gunter describes need to have R&P reflect the reality of the process (which is now passed through CIM). The proposal was **approved** by unanimous vote.**

6. Possible future topics for EdPol (Gunter)

**Student concerns about the erosion of the traditional 4-7 PM open period.**

**Adjourned 4:20 PM.**

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

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

*Provost challenges (August 26, 2020 Ed Pol Meeting)*

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

*R&P Section 3 clean-up: R&P 3.14.3 P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science: is HSS requirement still relevant?*

*Discussion of online teaching standards and evaluation.*

*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)*

*Discussion of necessity for a written policy regarding excuses from exams due to athletic competitions.*