

Educational Policy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 3:00 PM

Attendance: **Gunter (Chair); Mary Beth Deily (COB); Katrina Zalatan (COB); Ginny McSwain (CAS); Linda Bell (RAS); Susan Szczepanski (CAS); Sabrina Jedlicka (RCEAS); Brenden Huegel (student, RCEAS); Tong Soon Lee (CAS); Brook Sawyer (COE); Eduardo Gomez (COH); Natasha Vermaak (RCEAS); Paul Salerni (CAS); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Santiago Delgado (student, CAS); Nicholas Coscarelli (graduate student, CAS); Matt Hornung (student, COB); Vince Munley (CAS); William Gaudelli (Dean, COE); Jennifer Jensen (Provost Office); Steven Wilson (Registrar, committee secretary).**

1. Approve minutes of August 26, 2020 Meeting

Approved without amendment.

2. Announcements (Gunter)

- a. Provost challenged Lehigh community on several issues (see minutes of 26 August). Chair will add these issues as appropriate to future meetings.

- b. Faculty Senate supported student resolution and proposal known as “Hawk the Vote.” This would mean adjusting academic schedule (including common exams) to allow voting and other civic engagement on national election days. Jensen called for the Registrar to convene University Calendar committee to review this and other issues.

3. Proposed revision to **R&P 3.10 Scholastic Probation** to include a new category called “Scholastic Warning” and to revise the probation standard for students with less than 19 credits (Gunter)

Gunter introduced proposal (attached to agenda), and described intention of change. Discussion by committee. Szczepanski suggested using current credit levels in R&P for class-cohort. Gunter agreed to revise proposal to maintain consistency across R&P.

Committee discussion, including: means for assessing and monitoring academic progress; proposed standard of 24 successful credits per academic year; use of summer and transfer credits; need for advising; purpose and effect of using probation vs. warning (student reps commented on effect on confidence and focus, especially for FY and First Gen students).

Szczepanski suggested special focus of “warning” to be limited to early alert for FY students (that is, after first-semester); others argued for first year rather than first semester only. Further discussion, including potential effect of probation vs. warnings on student athletes. Student reps noted that other student engagement activities (Marching 97, Greek life, etc.) also affected.

Gunter will revise language in proposal based on committee suggestions, for further discussion and consideration at a future meeting.

4. Discussion of Ed Pol role in fighting racism (Gunter and Odi)

Odi is absent, due to family issue. Gunter introduced issue, and discussion followed. Conversation to be carried forward for a future meeting.

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

*Proposed revision to **R&P 3.7.1 General Conduct** (of Quizzes and Examinations) to allow quizzes/exams during last week of a semester (Jensen and Munley)*

*Proposed revision to **R&P 3.20.1 Requirements for Graduation** (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)*

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

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

Discussion of 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)