

**Educational Policy Committee Minutes**  
**October 13, 29, 2021, 3-4:20pm, Williams 351**

**In Attendance:** Mary Beth Deily (COB, chair); Linda Bell (RAS); Ginny McSwain (CAS); Susan Szczepanski (CAS); Nobuko Yamasaki (CAS); Paul Salerni (CAS); Lori McClaind (SA); Brook Sawyer (COE); Sabrina Jedlicka (RCEAS); Xiaosong (David) Peng (COB); Duncan Shober-Fernback (student, RCEAS); Wenxin Liu (RCEAS); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Katrina Zalatan (COB); Ryan Gogerty (student, COB); Henry Odi (D&I); Jennifer Jensen (Provost's Office); Steven Wilson (Registrar, secretary); Kathy Iovine (Senate, guest). Members on Zoom: Albert Xinliang Liu (COH).

**1. Minutes from meeting of September 29, 2021**

Approved.

**2. Announcements**

- a. Academic Affairs committee is focusing on interdisciplinary opportunities.
- b. Discussion of class restrictions (below) intended to preview and prepare for future committee discussions with regard to Disability Services.

**3. Report on Lehigh Launch, first and current year -- Jennifer Jensen**

History reviewed: Academic content, with NOLES supported programs. 2021 American West (Wyoming and New Mexico) was adapted to COVID conditions; Ecuador remains suspended with hopes of revival post-pandemic. Background information is attached.

Kathy Iovine (guest, representing Faculty Senate) asked about assessment and resources, and prospects for scaling up the pilot. Jensen describes program design and budget status.

**4. Faculty Senate concern with class restrictions by college/major**

Kathy Iovine (representing Faculty Senate) described genesis of faculty concern: certain students not able to take courses, due to departmental and college restrictions. Senate reps met with Provost Nathan Urban to review the issue. Fall 2021 limits on ENGL 001 was an example offered (also Computer Science).

Susan Szczepanski (CAS) offered background for the decision: unanticipated surge of FYS enrollment led to seat "crunch" in key classes; enrollment caps may serve pedagogy, and also allow intentional usage of scarce instructional resources. General discussion of issues that created these conditions, and reasons why restrictions or special permissions are not a solution in the long run: interdisciplinary programs, multiple majors/minors, students who change majors/colleges, etc. Possible solutions: new Argos reporting to predict demand? Control through CIM process? This discussion will continue at a future meeting. Registrar will review Argos reports (attached).

## **5. Outstanding Items to be Carried Forward**

- a.** Requests for accommodations are beginning to overwhelm faculty.
- b.** Diversity and Inclusion: Now that the University's DI&E plan has been released, EdPol will invite Henry Odi to report on the findings and goals in the plan.
- c.** R&P 3.7.3.1 Final Examinations: Proposed revision for cases where an emergency requires the cancelation of scheduled final exams.