

**Educational Policy Committee Minutes  
October 27, 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 (DOS); Brook Sawyer (COE); Sabrina Jedlicka (RCEAS); Xiaosong (David) Peng (COB); Duncan Shober-Fernback (student, RCEAS); Paolo Bocchini (RCEAS); Ryan Gogerty (student, COB); Albert Xinliang Liu (COH); Henry Odi (D&I); Erica Hoelscher (COH); Sterling Salmini (student, CAS); Jennifer Jensen (Provost's Office); and Steven Wilson (Registrar, secretary).  
Guests: Heather Hosfield (University General Counsel), and Michelle Conrad (DSS).

**1. Minutes from meeting of October 13, 2021**

Approved, *as amended, with regard to announcements:*

- a. Academic Affairs committee is focusing on interdisciplinary opportunities *and improving university ranking.*
- b. Discussion of class restrictions . . . intended to preview and prepare for future committee discussions *with Provost Urban* with regard to Disability Services.

In Lehigh Launch discussion, the abbreviation is *NOLS*, not NOLES; also, it should be noted that *NOLS is a co-curricular partner.*

**2. Announcements**

**3. Discussion of Disability Support Services**

Presentation by McClaind; Discussion, including Hosfeld and Conrad

- a. Scope of services
- b. Trend in numbers
- c. Accommodations
- d. Resource needs

General comments, questions, and discussion from members. Discussion included the following: Can faculty be more involved in designing/deciding on accommodation? Would earlier notification help faculty meet students' needs? Would the creation of a testing center meet the need? Should DAR seek donors to increase support? With regard to "academic flexibility," what is the definition of/limit on "reasonable"? When and how would DSS policy conflict with legitimate faculty concerns for academic honesty?

Discussion will be continued with the Provost, at a future meeting. For reference, Deily assembled the following examples.

- a. Permanent accommodations:
  - Extended time for testing/1.5 or 2.0.

- Use of a peer note taker.
  - Audio recording of lectures.
  - Assignments provided in advance so that student can plan ahead and lessen cognitive fatigue.
  - Books and materials in an alternative format—please provide all written materials in an accessible electronic format.
  - Academic flexibility, which is flexibility with attendance and, by extension, with deadlines and assessments...a worksheet will be sent to faculty under a separate email with more information about academic flexibility.
- b. Temporary accommodations:
- Use a faculty-approved memory aid/note card when it does not fundamentally alter the nature or focus of the assessment.
  - 24-hour extension to complete homework assignments.

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

- a. 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.
- b. R&P 3.7.3.1 Final Examinations: Proposed revision for cases where an emergency requires the cancelation of scheduled final exams.