

**Educational Policy Committee Minutes  
December 05, 2024**

Present at the hybrid meeting...

...in the room

Kelly Austin

Linda Bell

Aaron Cebrero

Michael Dills-Allen

Tom Hammond (taking minutes)

Henry Odi

Megan Stratton

Fathima Wakeel (chair)

...and on Zoom

Paolo Bocchini

Angela Brown

Derick Brown

Stacy DeVlvo

Wenyan Feng

Michael Gusmano

Andreea Kiss

Joanna Mishtal

Lucy Napper

Naomi Rothman

**1. Approval of minutes** from previous two meetings

Oct 31

Nov 14

**2. Discussion of R&P 1.3.2.1 revision** (Educational Policy Committee)

Peter Zeitler and Jenna Lay from the Faculty Senate were introduced. Presented their view of voting rights & role of Ed Pol as a component of faculty governance. Should only faculty be voting and not, for example, staff (ex: RAS) or faculty serving in administrative roles (Assoc Deans)? Current functioning of Ed Pol is in contrast to GRC, which has the same mix of personnel (faculty, staff, admin) but different rules. For example: C&C subcommittee on GRC has no ex officio members (Assoc Deans); Ed Pol's C&C is only Assoc Deans. Should functioning be consistent across GRC and Ed Pol, and should voting and sub-committee leadership be restricted to faculty members in order to strengthen / preserve principle of faculty governance.

Discussion; points raised

- Assoc Deans have the necessary curricular expertise and cross-program/cross-college vision to most efficiently manage C&C sub-committee
- The overlap and interlock goes beyond GRC and Ed Pol due to additional committees. GRC supervises SOGS, Ed Pol supervises SOS. When SOGS can't resolve, goes to GRC. So: Assoc Deans and staff have a role in GRC-supervised decision-making already; it's not as different from current Ed Pol practice as one might think.
- Definitional challenge created by lack of clarity in R&P. There are rules for faculty, there are rules for students...but the administration and staff are in limbo, at least in terms of

exactly where their role leaves off and the role of a faculty member or student begins. Consequently, there are no easy answers as we set distinctions between what admin and staff can or cannot do

- Faculty are managing competing pressures of participating in faculty governance (which will erode if faculty are not actively engaged) versus managing their teaching / research / other service (in which expectations appear to constantly ratchet upwards)
- Faculty should consider when service is service vs. when it's leadership. Serving in faculty governance positions (Ed Pol, GRC, Senate) is leadership

Discussion tabled in the interest of time; will continue at a future date. Zeitler and Lay are open to returning to further the discussion.

### **3. Volunteers for taking minutes** in spring 2025

Next meeting is February 6th; chair encouraged volunteers to sign up (see link to Google form in agenda)

### **4. Discussion and approval of course & program** changes (C&C sub-committee)

Kelly Austin presented general outline of proposed changes (22 courses, 12 programs). Majority are routine updates (adding pre-reqs, adjusting instructional approach/contact hours) or bureaucratic clean-ups (deactivating duplicated courses). All approved except one course (CSB 312) and its related program (IC BS in CompSci & Business); these were tabled to await further C&C work and will be brought back to the full committee at a future date.

### **5. Inclusive Excellence Workshop**, to be held Jan 14

Henry Odi presented the history of the workshop series (came out of discussions at Ed Pol, 9 years ago) and its track record (has run for the subsequent 8 years!). Typically held at the start of the semester, hence the need to publicize it to encourage faculty attendance. Ed Pol chair affirmed—this is a highly worthwhile event!

### **6-7-8. (R&P changes, catalog policy proposals)**

Michael Dills-Allen pointed out that the next 3 items are all related to RAS functions and would require adequate time to discuss; proposed that we table them and then re-visit

**Additional remaining items also tabled; meeting adjourned**