

## ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, September 16, 2024

2:30p.m. | UC Council Room

### *Minutes*

**Present:** Allen, Benedict, Bermudez, Cieminski, de la Torre, Heiny, Kyle, Leatherman, Leonard, Matchett, Parker, Paytoe Gbayee

**Zoom:** Couch, Muller

**Absent:** Larson

**Guest:** Senbet

Call to Order 2:33pm

Approval of the Agenda approved without objection

Approval of the September 3, 2024, meeting minutes approved with the changes to the Chair's report.

Announcements/Chair's Report (Newman) – No report

### Reports from Councils

Graduate Council (Cieminski) – Graduate Council will meet at the end of month and sub-committees are being established.

Liberal Arts Council (Muller) – No meeting since last APC, are meeting on Tuesday (tomorrow) and will talk mostly about assessment including a report from the Director of Assessment on the Direct Assessment of student learning in LAC courses in the Natural and Physical Sciences completed during AY 23-24.

Professional Education Council (Paytoe Gbayee) – The Professional Education Council is focusing on realigning internal processes, working on the bylaws, and preparing for education accreditation.

Undergraduate Council (Larson) – No report

Student Government Association (Bermudez) – No report

### Special Reports

#### Special Order

### Unfinished Business

- **Four-Day Final Exam schedule**

- [Final Exam Schedule resolution.docx](#)

- [Faculty Senate resolution to support](#)

- The Admin and Registrar's Office will work together to determine what is required to implement a 4-day exam week.
- The current finals week system may need to be revisited to better serve students. The finals week schedule has not been reviewed since about 1983.
- Members of APC were under the impression that the 4-day finals week would not be time-consuming to implement.

- The registrar's office was not informed about implementing a 4-day finals week after the approval from Faculty Senate.
- Question from APC: Does the registrar have the capacity?
  - Yes, they have the capacity. Couch will need some lead time
- APC is asking the registrar's office to draft a 4-day finals week for Fall 2025.
  - Benedict has volunteered to connect with interested parties such as the different departments, dining services, and housing to receive input.
- Tentative timeline:
  - Registrar's office will provide APC with a draft of the 2025-2026 finals week schedule by January 2025.
  - Benedict will meet with interested parties by spring break to receive final approval.
  - APC will give final approval and implement the 4-day finals schedule by the end of spring semester.
- **Curriculum Standards Recommendations**
- Current recommendation
  - The committee should revisit curriculum standards and draft policies about key points, specifically building academic policy about thresholds.
  - One of the main motivations for these standards is to clearly distinguish between bachelor's and associate degrees.
  - For transferability, it didn't make sense for students to transfer in with community college courses only to retake the same course at a different level. This redundancy creates confusion and inefficiency for students.
    - Students transferring from community colleges are not able to transfer 300-level courses, maintaining the academic distinction between the two levels.
  - Questions about curriculum standards:
    - Curriculum policies are currently listed in the catalog .
    - Have majors that have such few (9 credits) been notified and consulted?
      - They have been contacted and it is important to include them in the discussion since they would be impacted the most.
  - It was suggested that the recommendations be rewritten and then moved to the Codification before going to Faculty Senate. The narrative for the Catalog should be submitted by March 2025.
  - If this moves forward, there will be cases where programs are not compliant, so those will need to be addressed.
    - Departments should be contacted to ensure they comply with the policy and are fully informed of the changes. A list of majors and minors can be provided by registrar.
  - The Undergraduate Council (UGC) will be asked to review micro-credentials while APC discusses the certificate portion of the document.

- Newman can start drafting language for the approved recommendations.
- MOTION: Move to have official approval review from UGC
- VOTE: Approved unanimously and UGC will review the Curriculum Standards Recommendations.
- Discussion will continue at next meeting
  - Newman will ask UGC to review the micro-credentials portion.

#### Unfinished Business on hold

- **University Libraries Unit Organization**
- **Academic Calendar: Fall Break**

#### New Business

- **General Education Foundation Skills Credential (i.e., LAC “badge”)**
  - [CDHE recommendation](#)
  - State is encouraging all institutions to award the General Education Foundational Skills Credential.
    - Newman recommends reading the CDHE recommendations.
- **Micro-credentials/badges**

#### Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment 3:47pm

Harmony Newman  
Chair