

ACADEMIC POLICY COUNCIL MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019

239 TIGERT HALL

10:30 a.m.

Present: Youssef Haddad, Angela Lindner, Casey Griffith, Hans van Oostrom, Jack Mecholsky, Chris Hass, Andrew Zimmerman, Laurie Bialosky, and Deb Mayhew.

1. Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m.

2. Approval of September 27, 2019 Minutes

-The minutes were approved.

3. New Business

a. Proposed policy change for UF Credit Earned While in a Non-Degree Status

-With assistance from University Registrar Steve Pritz, Associate Provost Lindner provided a brief history of credit earned while in a non-degree status. VP of Enrollment Management and Associate Provost Zina Evans has requested that a closer look be taken at this this policy to help ascertain if students' non-degree status should affect whether or how they earn credit.

-Current policy has resulted in students not being allowed to use credit earned while attending UF in a non-degree status towards future UF degree programs to which they are subsequently admitted.

-Discussion included the following points:

-This policy does not apply to graduate students but to undergraduate students/the undergraduate catalog.

-Does data support if there are some common cases the policy can address?

-Is an individual case-by-case basis through the petition process the best way to assess the issue or can the number of needed petitions be reduced by re-working the policy?

-Policy should take into consideration issues relative to the growing number of dual-enrollment students.

-Dr. Lindner will meet with VP Evans and obtain information pertaining to the numbers of and what kinds of students are currently most affected by this policy.

An update will then be provided to council for further discussion.

b. Updates and potential updates to Syllabi requirements

- Council reviewed the [Syllabi Policy](#)

- Associate Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs, Chris Hass, distributed proposed [Gator Evals](#) verbiage to reflect the changes from the GatorRater to the GatorEvals system in item #10 of the syllabi policy. Council approved this item. Additionally, Dr. Hass is providing GatorEval overviews and updates and will share the Center for Teaching Excellence-hosted [workshops information and flier](#) with Faculty Council Chairs.

- **[DRC Syllabi draft](#)** – Council agrees with this draft Disability Resource Center (DRC) course accessibility statement, approved for incorporation into all course syllabi. This update to item #7 of the syllabi policy will reflect more comprehensive language.

-**[Office Hour memo](#)** -This memo was crafted in an effort to remind faculty of the importance of [Florida Statute 1012.945](#) which requires 12 classroom contact hours per week. This memo addresses the need for faculty to be consistently available. It would ideally be distributed and added to a (Provost area) policy page after review by the Steering Committee and Faculty Senate. Dr. Hass will add a statement related to “by appointment” to differentiate set hours and will return this to council, which agrees with this proposed text.

4. Old Business

a. Update re: “Charge” of Academic Policy Council

-Council reviewed the original Academic Policy Council charge as stated in the [University Constitution](#), Article V (3)(A)(1).

-At the October 2, 2019 University Constitution And Regulations Committee (UCRC) meeting, the [proposed charge forwarded by APC](#) was edited to:

- remove the comma after the words ‘student instruction’ and

-replace ‘for’ with ‘of’ in the final clause so that it reads “...general policies concerning student instruction, and academic merits of administrative positions of academic significance”; please see this link: [UCRC approved APC Charge](#) which was approved and posted on the [UCRC agenda/minutes web page](#).

-Following discussion, council did not unanimously agree with the above UCRC amendment.

-One suggestion was to amend the above sentence to:

read “...general policies concerning student instruction and academic ~~merits of administrative positions of academic significance~~ **qualifications required for administrative positions**” to reflect that council does not participate in the hiring

process for individual administrative candidates but does weigh in (in an advisory role) on qualifications deemed relevant and desirable for academic administrative positions

at the university.

-Another suggestion was that council leave the constitutional wording as is and instead provide any needed clarification at the start of each academic year when council reviews its mission in its opening council meeting.

-The Faculty Senate Secretary will update the UCRC at their next (November 6th) meeting that no agreement to support the UCRC proposal was reached at council.

-There was no consensus with council members on the above, new Academic Policy Council charge, so council will decide at the next meeting whether to continue this conversation and weigh options on how or whether to move forward on this item.

b. Faculty Titles

-[Faculty Senate Bylaw](#) 21 (A) (1) and (2) was reviewed.

-Locating academic policies and definitions currently in existence for faculty titles and administrative positions will be helpful to guide council discussion.

-Following an inquiry, it was noted that faculty are evaluated based on assignment, not faculty title.

-[Regulation 7.003](#) defines faculty modifiers, titles, and classifications and was reviewed.

The application of many combinations of titles due to modifiers have increased the overall number of faculty titles. Some titles may be outdated and may not adequately capture what a faculty member does. Council will begin a review of tenure track titles, of which there are fewer, and then move to a review of non-tenure titles. A-F in bylaw 21 are tenure accruing titles. Some of m and n are permanent.

HR has a website which defines some of responsibilities of titles. Are Title B (Graduate Research Professor) and C (Distinguished Service Professor and Distinguished Research Curator) being awarded? Dr. Hass will confirm, as these may potentially be obsolete and should be properly reflected in the bylaws.

-The [UF Human Resources overview of appointments webpage](#) links to faculty [titles](#), [modifiers](#), and other details which can help frame council's discussion.

c. Note Academic Policy Council meeting times for this Fall 2019

i. Tuesday, November 19 3:00 – 4:30 @ Reitz Union, Chamber Room

ii. Wednesday, December 4 10:30 – Noon @ 239 Tigert Hall

5. Adjournment

-The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.