

## ACADEMIC POLICY COUNCIL (APC) MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97759289380?pwd=dUJNWUJodU5jVFIFajY5MnJ3TEdUQT09>

**Present:** Hans van Oostrom, Andrew Zimmerman, Angela Bacsik, Chris Hass, Eleni Bozia, Emma Towler, Liz Wood, Paul Duncan, Laurie Bialosky, and Richard Scholtz.

### 1. Call to Order - Hans van Oostrom, APC Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 3:00 by APC Chair Hans van Oostrom.

### 2. Approval of September 21, 2020 Minutes

- The minutes were approved.

### 3. Old Business

- a. Update: The [Faculty Titles Resolution](#) was tabled by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. Council supported this resolution. Working titles and Human Resources titles are still being discussed. Compensation Committee Chair Sean Trainor is available to the Faculty College Councils/Assemblies Chair for more feedback from each college and to get a sense of how much support there is for such a resolution.
  - Council is open to considering if a better path forward is to limit all faculty titles to Assistant, Associate, and Full.
  - The Provost expressed that any resolution not cloud any definitions of what the minimum requirements are for each faculty title.
  - Minimal requirements for terminal degrees were discussed.
  - There are some state requirements which need to be met to teach at certain levels.
  - Approaches to faculty title changes via university policies, constitutional, and regulation changes were discussed. Because university bylaws indicate that faculty are to be evaluated based upon the faculty member's assignment, a faculty member will still be tracked as tenure or a non-tenure, regardless of what a faculty member's percentage assignment is of service, teaching, research, etc. The proposed resolution will not and does to aim to change this.
  - Council agreed that a key approach to this subject is to ensure that departmental bylaws are not infringing on rights of non-tenure accruing faculty. The consistency of faculty voting rights across campus should be addressed. While certain voting rights (such as the exclusive right of tenured faculty to vote on tenure applications are clearly understood and consistently practiced, other rights and privileges, such as the ability to vote on research priorities or program activities in a department, regardless of graduate faculty status, should also be consistent. Chair van Oostrom requested that council members bring this to the attention of their colleges, ideally through the College Council/Assembly Chairs, and ask each to attest that their bylaws ascribe to these definitions of faculty and their uniform voting rights. Council will also stay abreast of Chair Trainor's progress with College Councils/Assemblies communications and assist with any questions if department bylaws reviews are triggered.

- b. Testing Space on Campus
  - There is a need for increased testing space on campus and Chair van Oostrom will request an update from Associate Provost of Undergraduate Affairs, Dr. Angela Lindner.
- c. Quest 2
  - Dr. Andrew Wolpert, Director of UF Quest and Associate Professor of Classics, has been contacted to obtain an update on how Quest relates to, and is carrying out, the university's diversity and inclusion initiatives. Associate Provost Lindner is assembling a General Education Task Force on Diversity that will explore how the university can best provide opportunities for all students to learn about bias, racism, and practicing anti-racism. This group will convene for the first time in the next few weeks. Faculty Senate's representative on that group is Lawrence Ukeiley, Assistant Professor in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department.
- d. Course/Teacher Evaluations
  - IFAS has a rigorous peer evaluation system which would be helpful to review to recommend implementation at a university or unit level.
  - The Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) regulates much of what constitutes peer evaluation.
  - Current and forthcoming state regulations must also be considered.
  - There are currently evaluations of online classes, including the quality of online courses of both COVID-transitional classes as well as those typically offered (pre-COVID).
  - Andy McCollough, Associate Provost for Teaching and Technology, can be contacted to provide updates regarding the 2025 strategic plan and implementation.
  - Having a well-structured evaluation system which includes peer evaluations and does not rely solely on course evaluations, particularly for faculty with large teaching loads/assignments, may be more constructive and representative for faculty.
  - Reducing biases in teaching evaluations is a consideration and council will look for others to partner with to examine these issues.

#### **4. New Business**

- a. Academic Integrity
  - The Provost has asked Associate Provost McCollough to put together a group to address the problems associated with Online Learning Assessment and Academic Integrity and to recommend solutions. The group will have representatives from Faculty Senate and will review faculty concerns such as problematic student usage of, and copyright issues with, online learning platforms which access course-specific study resources, such as Course Hero. It will also discuss how to address modes of cheating faculty have discovered, including the use of a secondary laptop during exams, using another language to copy materials, etc.
  - Guidance should be offered to faculty to assist with understanding how proctoring and Canvas tools work.
  - It is recommended faculty employ Honorlock at least 72 hours in advance of an exam to allow time for Honorlock to complete security processes.
  - Honorlock triggers, such as insufficient lighting, background noise, or incomplete room scans were discussed.

- Please continue to report to academic integrity issues and share any faculty feedback or concerns. These will be collated and shared with Associate Provost McCullough's committee.

- Council will help message this information to faculty.

b. Face to Face Spring 2021 Classes

- Classrooms are being equipped so students can virtually join in-person classes.

- A primary university goal is to ensure students and faculty are not separated by technology.

- Registrations for course sections were discussed, including that asynchronous versus synchronous online information will be available when students are scheduling.

5. **Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.