

ACADEMIC POLICY COUNCIL (APC) Minutes (Draft)

Friday, December 8, 2023

1:00 p.m.

135 Tigert Hall, (Student Affairs Conference Room 142)*, or if needed, via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/94461770700?pwd=VGRRYmpCSHhJSHBjbFhxbEFQL01nZz09>

Meeting ID: 944 6177 0700 Passcode: 882557 Dial in: +1 305 224 1968

Present: Nancy Clark, Angela Lindner, Chris Hass, Tom Kelleher, Eleni Bozia, Vandanna Baweja, Crystal Marull, Dipankur Gupta, Karen Whalen, Laurie Bialosky, Tobin Shorey, Wenjun Xie, Chenglong Li, Zhong-Ben Pen, and Cynda Crawford.

1. Call to Order – Nancy Clark, APC Chair

- The meeting was called to order by APC Chair Nancy Clark at 1:03 p.m.

2. Approval of November 9, 2023 Minutes

- The minutes were approved by all APC members present

3. Old Business

a. (SB 266 Updates) Discussion and Reports on Response to General Education-related Language in SB266 – Angela Lindner, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs

- Public speaking is required in 11 core communication courses. The GEC task force has defined public speaking and developed student learning objectives for the public speaking curriculum

- The task force is considering the potential for students to earn badges in different communication modes in for-credit courses and this is not restricted to the 11 core courses. This is not without precedent as there is a state-required badge in fundamental communication that students earn

- In their last meeting, the BOG recommended removal of a sociology course that contained material deemed noncompliant with SB 266 from the general education core curriculum, and addition of a history course.

b. Post-Tenure Faculty Review Update – Chris Hass, Associate Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs

- Dr. Hass addressed concern that inclusion of required statements of student-supporting resources to every course syllabus creates very long syllabi. He discussed the possibility of removing these resources from syllabi so they only contain course-specific information, and putting the resources in the Menu toolbar in the Canvas course shell for student access.

- Dr. Crystal Marull made a motion to move the required student resources from course syllabi to the course Canvas shell. Dr. Vandana Baweja seconded. All APC

members in attendance voted in favor of this motion. No one voted in opposition.

- Dr. Hass stated that President Sasse is committed to finding a simpler, less time-consuming format for faculty submitting their packets for post tenure review. The emphasis is on minimizing faculty burden. The selected format is not yet official. Dr. Sasse is also committed to monetary awards for faculty based on the PTR performance.
- President Sasse is still negotiating with the Faculty Union on different parameters for PTR.

4. New Business

a. International Graduate Student Recruitment [Petition](#)

i. [SB 846](#)

ii. [HB 7017](#) (2021):

- https://fora.aa.ufl.edu/docs/78/2021-2022/Update_Fac%20Senate_10.21.2021.pdf &
- <https://fora.aa.ufl.edu/docs//74///2021-2022//SEPT2021MinutesResearchandScholarshipCouncil.pdf>

- Effective 7/1/2023, SB 846 states that no state universities and colleges can accept grants from or participate in partnerships or agreements with an institution in foreign countries of concern (China, Russia, North Korea, Iran, Syria, Cuba, Venezuela). In conjunction with HB 7017, this extends to the hiring of faculty, postdocs, and graduate students residing in the countries of concern. Any partnerships or agreements or hiring must be approved in advance by the Board of Governors and specified requirements must be met. The BOG can withhold performance funding for a state university or college that enters an unauthorized agreement with countries of concern.

- Drs. Wenjun Xie, Chenglong Li, and Zhong-Ben Pen presented their International Graduate Student Recruitment Petition and discussed the negative impact of SB 846 on recruitment of talented graduate students for research programs, including the AI initiatives. They pointed out that it takes too long for the BOG approval process and that recruits select another institution during the interim.

- Currently, there is no guidance from the BOG for the recruitment and approval process for persons residing in other countries.

- Dr. Tom Kelleher attended a meeting with the Associate Deans of graduate programs from all UF colleges where concerns were expressed about the process and timeline for recruiting international graduate students and faculty. What can UF approve and how can the process time be shortened?

- UF HR, General Counsel, and the International Center are engaged in conversations with the BOG for clarification of these processes.

- Dr. Hass suggested that the Petition focus on recruitment from the

tremendous talent pool of graduate students and scientists around the world, including people originally from countries of concern that have established domicile in other countries. He also suggested asking UF to assist by providing more resources supporting a more effective and assertive recruitment effort.

- b. Please remind colleagues to complete a [nomination form](#) for university-wide committees; more details [here](#) including the list of [open seats](#) this election cycle; view the Academic Policy Council roster and terms [here](#).

- c. **Promotion & Tenure: New 3rd Party Vendor / Building New System / Associated Policies** – Chris Hass, Associate Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs
 - Dr. Hass stated that a procurement contract for a 3rd party vendor to replace the current OPT system for annual faculty review and P&T has been submitted. Development of the product starts 1/10/24 with a projected launch date in 2025.

- d. **Spring Scheduling**
 - Schedule options for the Spring and final dates will be confirmed and Outlook appts. for this hybrid meeting will be distributed by the Faculty Senate Secretary.
 - This topic was not discussed due to lack of time.

- e. **Other / Open Floor**
 - No other business or comments were presented.

5. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted by APC Member Cynda Crawford 12/8/23