

## Education Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 1, 2024

Faculty/Staff Members: Karen Dafoe, Ryan Davis, Eric Edlund, Margaret Gichuru, Christina Knopf, Jason Parks, Abby Thomas, Jeff Walkuski, Chris Widdall

Student Members: none

Ex-Officio Members: Carol Van Der Karr, Jennifer Martin Tse

Guests: Nancy Diller

Members Absent: Ryan, Christina, Chris

Topic	Comments/Discussion	Action
<b>Approval of minutes</b>	No changes	Minutes approved
<b>General discussion/announcements</b>	<p>The scheduled meeting dates in Teams following spring break are incorrect</p> <p>The credit limit increase proposal was approved by Faculty Senate</p>	Eric will update the correct meeting schedule
<b>Old business</b>	<p>The course withdrawal policy was introduced at Faculty Senate earlier this week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a question about whether this would be applied to both the undergraduate and graduate catalogs. The same language is in both, so it should be. The proposal we submitted listed only section F.04, so it needs to be updated.</li> <li>• Eric received additional feedback from Ross Border regarding his concerns of the phrase “academic dishonesty code”. This was discussed and decided that we should change this to be consistent with the language in the AGT policies, which refer to the “academic misconduct policy”.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eric will arrange for an edit from the floor to include Section N.09 to cover the graduate catalog.</li> <li>• Eric will propose additional edits to replace “violation of the academic dishonesty code” with “violation of academic integrity” and also to replace “permanent record” with the simpler “record” since it is not entirely clear how permanent this is.</li> </ul>

**New business**

**Initial discussion of preliminary survey results.**

- **Final exams:** There appears to be majority support in favor of the current policies. Other points that came up in the discussion were that (1) there is a substantial decrease in the NA and neutral responses when the results are filtered to focus on faculty, (2) we need to be aware that final exam time is counted toward our total contact hours for classes that is mandated by SUNY, (3) many people seem to have concerns about the procedure used for scheduling alternative final exams.
- **Attendance:** Overall strong agreement that the current policies are sufficient. Seems to be many opinions that we still need to work on ways of encouraging better attendance. Multiple other comments were made including (1) we are required to submit attendance reports early in the semester through Starfish, (2) the policies state that we need to make “reasonable accommodations”, (3) acknowledgement that things get more tricky for labs and similar that require significant overhead to setup, (4) accountability for attendance is an important part of career training and disposition for general success – Speech and Hearing students were cited as a good example of students who are generally very responsible due, at least in part, to the early messaging from the department.
- **Emergency closures:** There seemed to be some confusion about canceling classes, which can be done by the president of the college, versus closing campus, which can only be done by the governor. There also seemed to be confusion around the last question (regarding online classes) with people thinking that this was asking if in-person classes should go online during a closure.

Working groups should take a closer look at free responses to the survey to determine whether there are issues that could use attention that did not rise to the level of campus-wide concern.

**Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at: 10:53 AM

Respectfully submitted by Eric Edlund, 3/1/204