

**University Senate
Annual Committee Report
Academic Year 2019-2020**

Section I

Name of Committee: Student and Faculty Policy Committee

Submitted by: Johannah Uriri-Glover, Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation

Date Submitted: 4/25/2020

Membership Roster:

Valerie Adams, Interdisciplinary Humanities and Communication

Scott Day, W. P. Carey Management and Entrepreneurship

Don Frost, W. P. Carey School of Accountancy

Gillian Gile, School of Life Sciences

Hala King, School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences

Maureen McCoy, College of Health Solutions

Ashley Randall, CISA-College of Counseling and Counseling Psychology

Joseph Russomanno, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Catherine Saucier, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts School of Music

Stacey Whitecotton, W. P. Carey School of Accountancy

Overview Narrative:

The following summarizes committee work accomplished throughout this past year:

The purpose of the Student Faculty Policy Committee (SFPC) is to serve in a policy-forming and advising capacity in matters governing student conduct, consistent with the Rules of Maintenance of Public Order and the Student Code of Conduct, in matters concerning student organizations, and in other matters related to students including:

- undergraduate and graduate admission and readmission policies and procedures;
- registration, graduation requirements, grading policies, scheduling, withdrawal policies, course load maximums, and program of study filing requirements;
- student activities related to academic development, including advisement, counseling, and academic organizations;

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- policy development with respect to student-faculty-administration relationships;
- review of organized extra-classroom activities to assess their continued effective relation to university academic goals;
- policy development with respect to academic integrity and
- review of undergraduate education, including teaching in a research institution.

The SFPC reviews a variety of Requests for Consultation (RFC) submitted by the committee members, senators, ASU faculty, and ASU students. RFCs very often require research and investigative work by committee members in order to develop a thorough understanding of an issue and a possible resolution. During 2019 -2020, the committee actively worked on the following RFCs:

RFC-26 Subject Development of clearinghouse for academic dishonesty cases.

RFC-188

Subject Request Senate Review the Current Academic Renewal Policy:
Request to review the current policy to ensure it is effective in achieving the desired outcome to secure and maintain the quality of the ASU degree.

RFC-199

The Associated Students of Arizona State University Undergraduate Student Government, Tempe Senate: Resolution 07 _S07, a resolution urging the university to remove voting barriers on election day.

RFC- 207

Explore ways to mitigate food insecurity on all ASU campuses.

RFC-176

Inserting Open Access Policy into the ACD manual.

RFC – 157 Require students who have withdrawn from a class three or more times to receive unit level approval before enrolling for an additional time,

Section II

Request for Consultations and/or topics reviewed by the committee and outcomes (topics reviewed by the committee decided not to act/review should be listed here with, no action taken):

RFC-26 Subject Development of clearinghouse for academic dishonesty cases:

Motioned passed by the Senate and has closed for a couple of years. According to Dr. Daniel McCarville, it has expanded into the ASU wide committee with representation from each of the schools. Quite a bit of standard/best practices are now being shared and implemented beyond the implementation of a central database.

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Status Closed

RFC – 157 Require students who have withdrawn from a class three or more times to receive unit level approval before enrolling for an additional time

Outcome: The committee drafted a motion, which was approved by the senate

<https://usenate.asu.edu/motions/2019-23>. The motioned passed in the Senate.

Motion not approved by the Provost Office

Monitored every Monday morning and when a Track Term is turned back for the reason “required course is full,” we work closely with the academic unit to resolve the issue. Two points: first, this happens very rarely (approximately 6 instances over the course of a year), and second, students withdrawing has never been cited as a potential cause of the problem. The proposal would create a redundancy in our processes.

Recommendation

Close RFC 157

Section III

Request for Consultations and/or topics that were not started or remain unfinished and need to be carried over to the next academic year.

RFC-188 Subject Request Senate Review the Current Academic Renewal Policy: Request to review the current policy to ensure it is effective in achieving the desired outcome to secure and maintain the quality of the ASU degree.

Committee members checked with Fred Corey for more information about this RFC. He sent the committee chair the request for revisions to the Academic Renewal policy from the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation. The request included the following information:

The policy was most recently reviewed in 2002, prior to the implementation of pathway programs. These programs allow students to attend a special program, offered by a community college and ASU. After completion, the community college can transfer credits when the student applies to ASU. Currently, the policy states that students can transfer 60-64 credits. To be admitted into the RN-BSN program at ASU, Edson CONHI requires that students must have completed 75 credit hours at the community college. This is consistent with the requirement for the Associate degree in Nursing. Because these students are part of a specialized pathway program from community college to ASU, they must transfer more than 64 credit hours to be accepted into the program. As a result, students must petition the Academic Renewal Policy in order to transfer credits over 64 hours as stated in the policy. There are other similar specialized pathways throughout the university that would also benefit from the policy change.

Committee members, also, discussed whether the Academic Renewal Policy was intended to follow the same maximum transfer credits specified by ASU programs. It was noted the Transfer Credit Policy (SSM-401-01, <https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/ssm/ssm401-01.html>) states that the individual programs set the maximum number for special programs of transfer credits that can be applied to an ASU degree. Everyone seems to agree that this will make the Academic Renewal Policy

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consistent with the Transfer Credit Evaluation, which mentions that special programs can import more credits. This would maintain future-proof consistency between the policies.

Committee members recommended removing the following two sentences from the Academic Renewal Policy:

“Students following catalog year 1996/98 or subsequent may carry forward up to 60 hours of credit for which a grade of “C” or better was earned. Students following catalog years before 1996/98 may carry forward up to 64 hours of credit for which a grade of “C” or higher was earned.”

And replace with:

“This will apply to the maximum number of transfer credits allowed by the program, as specified by SSM-401-01.”

Removing the limitation on number of credits in the Academic Renewal Policy would allow the policy to be aligned with the transfer credit policy, with the maximum to be set by each program. This would allow pathway programs to set the maximum number of credits for academic renewal to 75, in line with its transfer maximum.

A letter was sent to Dr. Fred Corey with our recommendations. A motion of the recommendation was made for the Senate to vote on. Currently, Dr. Corey reviewed the proposed motion and is supportive and forwarded to the provost for approval. Currently, the proposed policy is being reviewed by the provost.

Recommendation

Follow-up with Provost office.

RFC-199 The Associated Students of Arizona State University Undergraduate Student Government, Tempe Senate Resolution 07 _S07, a resolution urging the university to remove voting barriers on election day.

Tempe Senate Resolution 07 _S07 included the results of recent petition, signed by 1500 students with Tempe zip codes and 1600 additional students from surrounding zip codes, supporting class cancelations on Election Days. The resolution requested the absence of graded classroom activities on election Days to help remove potential barriers to voting; and urges the University to ensure that the absence of exams on national election days. Committee members met with a student government representative to obtain more information about the issue from students’ perspective. We discovered that they are actively working to encourage student voter turnout by providing information about the process and dates on their website. Student government also requested from the state the placement of voting booths located on the Tempe Campus. This was granted, but similar requests for other ASU campuses was denied because they are located close to established voting sites. The committee also reviewed the Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (2019) report on the voting practices of Arizona State University students, and found that students were voting at a high rate.

Committee members also examined the practices of other universities regarding student voting. We found that those that cancel classes during national elections forfeited a holiday in return. We discussed similar options, including beginning a semester one day early. These, however, did not

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seem feasible given that the Academic Calendar is established too far in advance to implement changes in the current year. Due to the activities of the student government and the voting practices of our students, the committee decided to submit a resolution to the Senate. Resolution 2020-74 passed addresses the role of student government in the increasing student turnout; of faculty in supporting students; that faculty acknowledge that students may encounter barriers to voting on election day and do not wish to suppress any citizen's participation in voting; nor do faculty wish to create barriers to students exercising their civic right and responsibility to vote. Resolution 2020-74 passed with the following amendment: to include the verbiage National Elections, to indicate which elections the resolution applies to.

RFC- 207 Explore ways to mitigate food insecurity on all ASU campuses

Faculty advisors of the ASU pantry and student leaders from the Tempe and Downtown campus met with the Deans of Students from the Tempe and Downtown campus this year. Student leaders started a petition for students to sign if they wanted the pantry to expand to other campuses. Three hundred signatures were obtained before Spring Break 2020.

The Deans of Students expressed interest in continuing the conversation regarding expanding the pantry to the West campus. The Dean of Students office wants to be sure that a pantry is the best way to address food insecurity issues on campus. Currently, the Deans of Students office is requesting the name of any student who is struggling, and they will assist them. The Pitchfork Pantry advisors and student leaders informed the Dean of Students that the Deans office would not always know who is struggling unless the pantry identifies them first, because students are more likely to go to a fellow student for help than to go to the Dean's office.

After Spring Break and with the classes moving to remote learning, it was suggested, to the Dean's office, that the pantry make care packages for students who were struggling during Covid-19. The Dean's office declined and said that they would handle any struggling students. The Pitchfork Pantry directed students to local food banks and other resources (SNAP etc) to assist them during Covid-19.

Recommendations

This committee believes that it is important that this topic remain front and center as food insecurity is a concern on all ASU campuses and has been identified as a concern at the November 2019 and April 2020 Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) meeting and was identified by Associated Students of ASU (ASASU) as one of their goals and priorities for 2019-2020.

RFC-176 Inserting Open Access Policy into the ACD

Dr. Anali Perry, of the University library has requested that the current open access policy at ASU, approved in Senate motion 2017 – 46, be considered for insertion into the ACD manual. In addition, she is also requesting that a revision be made where the policy refers to faculty, when in fact it should apply to all members of the academic assembly. Dr. Perry made revisions that and subsequently the RCF was closed last year in 2019. However, the chair was unable to locate the policy in the ACD manual and contacted Dr. Perry. Dr. Perry located an archived email and has forwarded her suggested revisions to the policy.

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Recommendations

That this RFC reopened or assigned a new RFC number so that in the Fall 2020 the policy can be reviewed by this committee. According to the policy it is to be reviewed every 3 years <https://usenate.asu.edu/motions/2017-46>. Secondly, review the policy in the ACD manual to insure it is updated during this time.

Section IV**Recommendations to the Senate or Final Comments**

This has been a productive year for this committee, and as chair, I appreciate the members' service. We recommend that student representatives be formally assigned to this committee, so that they are a part of our meetings. Lastly, provide the committee, each year, with a list of any policies that up for review.

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