Tuesday May 11, 2021

Educational Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

Present: Chair, Jarrod Hanson, SEHD; Vice Chair, Jimmy Kim, Engineering; Secretary, Rachel Stott, Library; Wendy Bolyard, School of Public Affairs; Bryan Wee, CLAS; Jing Zhang; Business; Christopher Merkner, CLAS; Inge Wefes, Graduate School;

Absent: Dennis DeBay, SEHD; Matthew Shea, College of Architecture and Planning; Tod Duncan, CLAS; David Liban, College of Arts and Media.

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes from April 2021
   a. Motion to approve: Wendy motions to approve; Bryan seconds
   b. Minutes are approved
3. Campus syllabus policy (Policy 1031)
   a. Lindsey Hamilton from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will join us to discuss ways to work with CETL to revise the policy and create resources to help faculty make syllabi useful for teaching and learning
   b. Discussion with Lindsey
      i. Focus on equity and making it more user-friendly
      ii. In favor of a pared down policy with resources and examples connected to it
         1. CETL could potentially have a repository with examples and checklists
         2. One complexity is that the syllabus policy links out to a bunch of other policies (attendance policy, grading policy, etc.)
         3. Equity issues: language that faculty use in the syllabus may not make sense to all students; some language is deficit-based thinking with a focus on consequences/legalese (this language can discourages first-gen and minoritized students for asking for flexibility)
         4. Joann Brennan's office as agreed to maintain a website that can serve as a holding space for all the policies that can then be linked to from syllabi
            a. Keeping the policies separate allow the syllabus to serve more as an extension of the instructor, letting it be more of a tool that charts the journey of the course
         5. How do we support departments who have their own templates that reflect accreditation?
         6. Goal: have a syllabus policy that would be ready to move through faculty assembly by the end of fall 2021

     c. Propose two working groups
- i. Group 1 – Draft new policy, reducing scope of current policy and updating language.
  1. Volunteers: Chris (will run point on communication), Jing
- ii. Group 2 – Work with CETL to discuss resources to support faculty in creating syllabi
  1. Volunteers: Rachel, Bryan (Lindsey will run point on communication)

4. Review [proposed revisions to APS 7030 – Student Attendance and Absences](#)
   a. Some examples needed clarified (religious absences); looking at clarifying language around excused and unexcused absences; participation grades being tied to absences; etc.
   b. Looking for ways to give faculty guidance but flexibility
   c. Could add language to faculty responsibilities section to address how faculty will acknowledge student understanding of how they're implementing the policy
   d. In the future, will policies need to take into account how attendance in synchronous spaces equates to participation in asynchronous spaces

5. Review APS #1025 – Grading policy
   a. [Draft Policy](#)
   b. Justification
   c. Discussion:
      i. Student advising on how P+/P/F may impact graduate school/medical school/etc. needs to continue, as some of these grades could potentially hurt them down the road if programs they want to apply to don't accept those grades for certain classes
      ii. How does having a grading policy effect the trend of ungrading?
      iii. Some faculty use different number scales to equate to the letter (92-100 for an A compared to 93-100). How does the policy impact the scales?
      iv. Does alternate grading impact pre-reqs when students need to have passed certain classes before registering?

6. Election of officers for AY 2021-22
   a. Chair: Nomination: Dennis DeBay (nominated by Jarrod; seconded by Wendy)
   b. Vice Chair: Nomination: Rachel Stott (nominated by Jarrod; seconded by Wendy)
   c. Secretary: Nominatation: Wendy Bolyard (nominated by Jarrod; seconded by Wendy)
   d. All nominations approved

7. Adjournment

EPPC information including agendas and minutes is available on the UCD website at
http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty_staff/faculty/assembly/downtown/committees/Pages/Educational-planning-and-policy.aspx