



Educational Policies Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, 15 April 2019

Ex-Officio Members present (or represented): Senior Associate Provost Melody J. Tankersley; Deans Barbara A. Broome, Kenneth J. Burhanna, Mark S. Mistur, Eboni J. Pringle, Nathan P. Ritchey, Allison J. Smith; Associate Deans Cynthia R. Stillings (representing Dean John R. Crawford-Spinelli), Wendy A. Umberger, Manfred H. Van Dulmen; Assistant Dean Kara L. Robinson

Ex-officio Members not present (or not represented): Provost Todd A. Diacon; Faculty Senate Chair Pamela E. Grimm; Deans Christina Bloebaum, Maureen McFarland, Amy L. Reynolds; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Associate Dean Cathy Dubois, Miriam Matteson, Stephen A. Mitchell

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present (or represented): Professors Edward Dauterich, Christopher J. Fenk, Darci L. Kracht, Robert J. Twieg; Associate Professors Jeffrey Ciesla, Jennifer M. Cunningham

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present (or not represented): Associate Professors Ann Abraham, Vanessa J. Earp

Council Representatives present (or represented): Professors Michael W. Chunn, Paul M. Haridakis, Christopher Rowan, Said Shiyab; Associate Professors Ivan Bernal, Natalie Caine-Bish, Denise M. McEnroe-Petitte; Assistant Professors Sara Bayramzadeh (representing Dean William T. Willoughby), Yea-Jyh Chen, Duane J. Ehredt; Associate Lecturer Timothy Roberts

Council Representatives not present (or not represented): Professors Richard L. Mangrum, Simon Song, Jonathan B. VanGeest; Associate Professors Jooyoun Park, Geoffrey Steinberg, Jonathan Swoboda, Melissa D. Zullo; Assistant Professors Lindsay C. Baran, Derek Kingsley; Lecturer Mary Kutchin

Observers not present: Lauren Oswald, Antonina Pakholkova Mohamed

Consultants and Guests present: Aimee J. Bell, Alicia R. Crowe, Larry G. Froehlich, Mary Ann Haley (representing Dean James L. Blank), Jeffrey S. Hallam (representing Dean Sonia A. Alemagno), Lynette Johnson, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Tracey Motter, Christa N. Ord, Mary Parker, Gail M. Rebeta, Matthew Rollyson, Hollie B. Simpson, Linnea A. Stafford, Therese E. Tillett, Don Williams (representing Dean Deborah Spake), Catherine M. Zingrone

Senior Associate Provost Melody J. Tankersley called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Monday, 15 April 2019, in the Governance Chambers of the Kent State Student Center.

Joint EPC Action Item 1: Approval of 18 March 2019 meeting minutes.

Associate Dean Stephen A. Mitchell made a motion to approve the item, and Associate Dean Cindy R. Stillings seconded. No changes, corrections or clarifications were requested. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item I: Inactivation of the Engineering of Information Technology [EIRT] major within the Associate of Applied Science [AAS] degree.

Vice President Nathan P. Ritchey discussed the purpose of inactivating the major. He said the last student to graduate from the major was in 2008. The College of Applied and Technical Studies has been removing majors that are not being used and replacing them with new two-year degrees.

Associate Dean Alicia R. Crowe motioned to approve and Professor Edward Dauterich seconded.

Associate Dean Mary Ann Haley referenced courses Technical Physics I & II from the Engineering of Information Technology major. She asked if those courses are offered in other majors.

Vice President Ritchey replied that those courses have not been taught in a long time, but the subject is included in other active courses.

With no other questions or concerns, the item passed unanimously.

Graduate EPC Action Item I: Revision of the academic standing policies for graduate students, including policies on progress toward degree completion, probation, dismissal appeal and reinstatement.

Senior Associate Provost Melody J. Tankersley stated that the policy has been reviewed with the Graduate Dean's Advisory Council and the EPC Ad Hoc Council. To ensure the language and procedures are clarified, the two councils reviewed the entire policy and applied possible scenarios. An addition to the policy was a procedure for appeals. The undergraduate appeal process was heavily applied to and used to create this procedure. Additionally, she referenced the flowchart, which will not be included in the policy, for members to review to better understand the appeal process.

Associate Dean Cindy R. Stillings made a motion to approve the item, and Associate Dean Stephen A. Mitchell seconded the motion.

Professor Christopher J. Fenk asked for clarification on the grade minimums. He said a student may have a few grades below the minimum, but they have other coursework that pushes their GPA well over a 3.0 making them in good academic standing. He asked how that is handled in regards to dismissal.

Senior Associate Provost Tankersley explained that at the graduate level, there is approximately 30 hours of coursework. The coursework is in depth; therefore, anything less than a "B" grade means that the student is not performing at the level overall needed for the discipline. She said nine hours out of 30 that are below a "B" grade is something to consider for dismissal. It does not have to dismiss, but can make the student eligible for dismissal.

Professor Fenk asked for clarification on the wording "subject to dismissal."

Senior Associate Provost Tankersley replied that his department will need to deliberate on whether the student is dismissed or put on probation.

Professor Fenk stated that the college does not want to lose students that are otherwise in good academic standing, but also have confusion on dismissal by the policy.

Senior Associate Provost Tankersley advised that is why the policy was written as such. The college knows about the specific courses, programs and issues that may apply at the department level. She encouraged clarity in departmental handbooks and consistency in the application of the policies. Furthermore, the graduate policy is for the university overall and could be applied along with much stricter departmental policies.

Associate Dean Donald Williams explained that the student, in good academic standing, does not have to be dismissed. However, anything below a “B” grade is a good indicator that something is not going well. The student can be notified and concern for their academic success can be expressed. This advises the student properly and gives them ample warning. If the student does not improve, the college can dismiss confidently knowing advisement and warning was given.

Professor Paul M. Haridakis asked for confirmation that there were no changes in the policy about progress towards degree and time limits.

Senior Associate Provost Tankersley replied that the current policy states that doctoral candidacy and oral examination time limits are five years. That conflicted with the old policy that said nine years for post-master degrees. That was updated to be consistent. Continuous registration was clarified by providing a definition of calendar year—three consecutive semesters including summer.

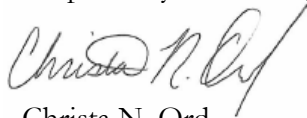
Professor Michael W. Chunn stated that his college sends letters of concern to students if they receive a B- or lower in a course. The letters explain the path the lower grade puts the student on and the guidelines they need to follow for improvement. He said the decision-making process on dismissal process is completely in-house.

Senior Associate Provost Tankersley advised that responsibility falls on the department to communicate the expectations with the students and to be consistent with applying those expectations. Graduate students should be provided with handbooks that includes this information.

Without further questions or concerns, the item passed unanimously.

With no requests for additional discussion, Senior Associate Provost Tankersley adjourned the meeting at 3:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christa N. Ord

Administrative Secretary, Curriculum Services, Office of the Provost