



**Educational Policies Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday, 6 December 2021**
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Leadership present: Chair Pamela E. Grimm; Secretaries Therese E. Tillett, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Aimee J. Bell, Christa N. Ord

Administrators present (or represented): Senior Associate Provost Manfred H. van Dulmen; Dean Christina L. Bloebaum

Administrators not present (or represented): Dean Mark S. Mistur

Faculty present (or represented): Professors Vinay K. Cheruvu, Edward Dauterich, Karen Gracy; Associate Professors Brian R. Barber, Vanessa J. Earp, Derek Kingsley, Denise McEnroe-Petitte, Gabriella Paar-Jakli, Helen Piontkivska, Geoffrey Steinberg, Brett D. Tippey, Michael R. Fisch; Assistant Professors Jo A. Dowell, Cat E. Goodall, Eric S. Kildow, Lameck M. Onsarigo, Christopher Rowan; Associate Lecturers Mary F. Kutchin, Shelley K. Marshall

Faculty not present (or represented): Professor Robert D. Hisrich; Associate Professors Duane J. Ehredt, Bethany G. Lanese, Jonathan F. Swoboda

Guests: Susan Augustine, Lorraine Bears, Brenda Burke, Emmanuel Dechenaux, Lynette Johnson, Deborah Knapp, Joanna Liedel, Charity Miller, Helen Piontkivska, Matthew Rollyson, Alison Smith, Sue Wamsley, Molly Wang, Cathy Zingrone

Chair Pamela E. Grimm called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Monday, 6 December 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Meeting on 15 November 2021

Associate Lecturer Shelley K. Marshall moved to approve, and Professor Edward Dauterich seconded the motion.

Without questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Ad Hoc Academic Standard Subcommittee—*Brenda Burke, chair*

Brenda stated that after reviewing the financial aid progress standards, there was some inconsistent information across university sites (catalog, academic sites, registrar's office and financial aid). This includes information about what it means for student to be matriculating in their program successfully towards a degree in a timely manner. After conversations with people

across the university, it was sent to Provost Tankersley to get a sub-charge for the committee to review academic standards for students matriculating towards a degree. The charge for the committee is to review the standards and how the information is given to students on matriculating towards degree completion—i.e., university catalog, college websites, materials and financial aid websites. The goal is to ensure that the information is consistent across all channels. The subcommittee will be making a recommendation on what those standards and process should be, a process for going forward for information to be updated, a communication strategy to be shared with the campus partners—i.e., students, faculty and staff and when it will be put into effect. Updates will be provided to EPC and the Provost as the committee works. The committee will begin review in January.

B. Undergraduate Policies Council—*Charity Miller and Sue Wamsley, co-chairs*

Sue stated that the current Academic Forgiveness policy removes all grades C- and below. In terms of honors and students applying for graduate school, all grades show on the transcript. The purpose of revising Academic Forgiveness is to give an alternative to the Course Repeat policy. Students may have changed their major and do not need to repeat the course or course elective. Academic Forgiveness allows for students to make progress toward degree completion. Another reason the policy is being reviewed is to make it clearer and more understandable. It provides a flexibility for unforeseen circumstances.

The committee is working on reviewing the current parameters that require students to be away for a year, not have a current degree, complete 12-24 graded credit hours with a minimum of 3.0 GPA, all C- grades and below removed and only use the policy once.

Chair Grimm asked how common it is for students to use academic forgiveness.

Therese said that, prior to the pandemic, there were approximately 700 students within 10 years with average 70 a year.

Chair Grimm asked if the committee expected a large increase in requests with the policy change.

Sue replied that it has not been discussed yet. Students who were not able to take advantage of it prior now would be able. She does not believe there would be a large increase.

Charity added that it is hard to say for sure, but it would allow for more students to use the policy.

Charity stated that the other policy being review is the Auto-Applying for Graduation. The motivation of the review is to get more students graduated in a timely manner. The data showed that there were 167 students that should have been cleared and applied for graduation but did not. Another task is to ensure awarded aid is being done appropriately for students who have completed their degrees and ensure that the information is reported accurately to ODHE. Currently, a subgroup from the subcommittee is reviewing the auto-awarding process. This includes IT and a group of representation from all college campuses. A template was created to look at the current timeline of graduation and what it looks like now. The subgroup will be

working on defining the problem and look at the current process issues and auto-awarding. Additionally, the subgroup will be getting student feedback. The metrics of the process will also be reviewed to see if there are any issues. The committee will either create a proposal with the solution being auto-award graduation or identifying steps that would improve the process without auto-awarding.

C. Academic Calendar Advisory Committee—*Deborah Knapp and Therese Tillett, co-chairs*

Therese stated that the committee has been working on understanding the semester structure—i.e., instructional days, breaks and holidays. The work includes comparing structure to Ohio and benchmark universities and ensuring compliance. Currently, the committee is reviewing the start day of the fall semester and if a Thursday start is still working. Additionally, the committee is reviewing spring break and when it is scheduled. The goal is to give recommendations in January. There are many different bodies to go to for feedback include the academic leadership group, chairs and directors, advising, student services, residence services, student affairs, etcetera. The proposal will go to EPC, Faculty Senate, Provost and President for final approval. The goal is to have the calendar reviewed and approved by May.

Chair Grimm suggested including Faculty Senate or Faculty Senate Exec in feedback.

An EPC member stated that the spring break is very late in the semester and students could use a day off in February.

Therese explained that the committee has to work with a tight semester schedule ensuring no instructional days are lost, but that an earlier spring break would be beneficial.

An EPC member said it was difficult for fall classes on Thursday's with how many days off there were.

III. Policy Proposals Review

A. Action Items

Transfer Credit Committee

1. Advanced Placement (AP): Revise policy to align with current practices (*fall 2022*)

2. College Level Examination Program (CLEP): Revise policy to align with state mandates on what scores are accepted (*fall 2022*)

3. College Tech Prep (CTP): Revise policy to align with state changes that expanded the timeframe for students to request credit from coursework they took in an approved tech prep program (*fall 2022*)

4. Correspondence: Inactivate the policy as it is unnecessary and antiquated (*fall 2022*)

5. Industry-Recognized Certifications and Examinations: Revise policy to include professional training; rename policy to Industry-Recognized Certifications, Examinations and Professional Training (*fall 2022*)

6. Military Training: Revise policy to remove “advanced standing credit” to avoid confusion with upper-division credit (fall 2022)

Joanna said that the alternative testing needed updated as the language was outdated. When rewriting these, the committee tried to remove specific scores of the policy and putting links to the guide where information is more consistently updated by KSU or the state. The state sets what the minimums must be, but KSU can give more.

Associate Lecturer Shelley K. Marshall expressed concern for a blanket statement that says that “if the credit is accepted by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, that it has been accepted.”

Joanna explained that it is written so that it is okay to ask questions, but that credit is not necessarily going to be given. How credit is accepted is rapidly changing. KSU looks to ODHE as they are conservative in what they accept. The state of Ohio is coming out with ITAG (Industry Transfer Insurance Guide).

Ed added that faculty will get the final decision in determining credit given.

Professor Edward Dauterich moved to approve, and Assistant Professor Jo A. Dowell seconded.

Without further questions, the item passed unanimously.

IV. Program Proposals Review

A. Action Item

College of Applied and Technical Studies

1. Technical Modeling Design - A.A.S.: Revise delivery mode to be offered fully online in addition to existing in-person at Tuscarawas Campus; revise program requirements in the elective options (fall 2022)

Lori Bears said that the option of online delivery of the courses started in 2006. This was done, because of the desire from people outside of Tuscarawas that wanted to take the courses. They wanted students outside of the area to be able to enroll in this program. A lot of support was received from the industry. This will broaden interest and enrollment. Students may also easily transfer into the bachelor’s degree after completing the associates in they desire.

An EPC member asked if there is a cost difference.

Therese said she checked with the bursar’s office and courses not exclusive to the associate degree on regionals do get a DL fee. A student taking a gen ed course online through any campus would be charged the same amount.

Lori explained that there will still be courses offered on the campus, so that should help if students can take some courses on campus.

Associate Professor Vanessa J. Earp motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Gabriella Paar-Jakli seconded the motion.

Without any further questions, the item passed unanimously.

With no further comments or questions, Chair Pamela E. Grimm closed the meeting at 4:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christa N. Ord
Administrative Secretary
Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost