

2016-2017 FACULTY SENATE
ACADEMIC POLICIES
COMMITTEE
MINUTES September 2, 2016
Approved: September 16, 2016

September 12, 2016

Members Present: Escobar, Evans, Gonsier-Gerdin, Gonzalez, Heinicke, Irwin,
Li, Schmidlein, Sharpp, Hernandez, Murphy), Trigales

Members Absent: Heather, Geyer, Watson-Derbigny

Guests Present: Anderegg, Dean, Hunt, Hurley, Migliaccio, Slabinski

Call to Order: Called to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Introductions! Given that this marked the first APC meeting of the academic year and fall semester, we started with a round of introductions, welcoming new members and guests.

2. Open Forum:

E. Mills (Student Affairs) had asked Chair Escobar to share information on two items on his behalf. Since D. Hunt was present, and also in Student Affairs and much more knowledgeable of the items than Chair Escobar, he presented the two items for E. Mills, which Chair Escobar greatly appreciated ☺

Item 1: Advising Task Force updates. Recommendations from the task force will be forthcoming, and these recommendations may, or will likely, have policy implications that APC will need to consider and act on.

Item 2: Disqualification (DQ)/Dismissal Policy (DS): This policy deals with students' academic standing. Sac State is the only campus in the CSU with two (2) statuses (DQ and DS). There may be a requirement that Sac State only use one (1) status in order to align with other CSU campuses. Student Affairs is looking at the issue and may come to APC if change is desired. Specifically, what will be changed is the definition of the particular status (either DQ or DS) that is selected.

D. Hunt (Student Affairs) discussed a new application system that will replace CSUMentor. This new application system will be able to handle the supplemental applications and processes that are used by impacted majors. The potential exists for this new application system to be utilized by Graduate Studies and CCE. The new application system will launch during Winter Intersession (2018) or Spring 2018, and it will have an impact on Fall 2017 applications. On May 30, 2017, the sun will permanently set on CSUMentor. [*Change happens, right?*]

J. Murphy (Academic Advising) shared that class availability has been really wonderful for students. She and her staff have noticed that offerings have increased, and there are a

lot more options available to students. This has been very helpful to everyone ☺ [Yay!]

3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Approved 2:25pm
4. **Review of Academic Policies Committee Standing Rules.** Chair Escobar requested that folks briefly review the Standing Rules, particularly the description of different positions which needed to be filled: Vice Chair and Subcommittee Liaisons.
5. **Selection of Vice Chair and Liaisons to Subcommittees.**
 - Vice Chair: **D. Evans** graciously volunteered to fill the role of Vice Chair of APC for 2016-17, which the Committee unanimously supported.
 - Academic Standards Subcommittee: **S. Escobar** volunteered to fill the role of APC Liaison to the ASC... which the Committee unanimously approved.
 - Student Retention & Graduation Subcommittee: **A. Gonzalez** volunteered to serve in this role again, having served last year. The Committee unanimously approved and greatly appreciates her service.
 - Readmission Subcommittee: No nominations. Will revisit this on September 16th
6. **Discussion of General Studies Degree: T. Migliaccio** updated the committee on the ad hoc working group's efforts regarding the General Studies Degree. **Background:** The idea of a General Studies degree, or General Education degree, have come up in conversations around the university in the past few years. However, there are questions as to where the degree would be based (i.e., which college(s)?). The College of SSIS seemed to be a "natural home" for a General Studies-type of program, but there may be others as well (e.g, A & L, NSM). If this is a new program that is developed, this issue would likely go to Curriculum Policies Committee (CPC). Criteria for a new degree/new program would need to be established. Basically, the idea is about how to develop a program to serve students who may have left the university for a period of time, returned, and wanted to finish their degree. **Task Force/Working Group:** At the APC October 16, 2015 meeting, a Task Force or Ad Hoc Working Group was created because it seemed that a number of APC members were interested in this issue and had input in the conversation. T. Migliaccio offered to take the lead on this in terms of contacting other individuals who might be interested. Other APC members who are going to be involved include M. Schmidlein and K. Van Gaasbeck (J. Irwin joined later). Name for this new group: "The Ad Hoc Working Task Force... [to Explore the Development of a General Studies Degree.]" Otherwise known as "Todd's Group" ☺

REPORT PRESENTED TO APC—9/2/16

Summary: Working group determined that a single General Studies Degree would not meet the needs of students who might benefit from a version of a "general studies type of degree." Three groups of students were identified: 1. A finishing degree for students who have "stopped out" (almost done with degree, need a class or two and can finish it up); 2. High unit seniors who fall within purview of different "intrusive/proactive advising"

policies (idea is to increase and improve advising efforts for these students to get them graduated in their declared major; these students are still enrolled but not making real progress toward their degree); 3. Social Services Degree for students denied admission into one of the impacted programs (e.g., Psychology, Criminal Justice, Health Sciences). The respective departments of these programs could craft a degree that has a 'social services' focus to it. **Next Steps:** APC decided to focus on the development of the Social Services Degree for the time being, awaiting feedback from the Advising Task Force.

... a brief diversion, albeit pertinent to the advising piece of this General Studies Degree proposal...

[There were questions raised as to the status of a policy, **Progress to Degree for High Unit Seniors.** Chair Escobar mentioned that she had had a conversation last May (2015) with the previous Senate Chair, Sylvester Bowie, President Nelsen and Cely Smart regarding this policy, as well as the Grade Appeal Policy. It was Chair Escobar's understanding that the President's amendments were ultimately approved by the 2015-16 Committee once clarification around the intent of those changes was obtained. Since that meeting, Chair Escobar has heard nothing with respect to whether or not the President had approved the policy. Chair Escobar stated that she will follow up with the Senate Chair and Senate Office and report back on this at the following meeting.]

... the Committee returns to the primary discussion at hand...

With respect to a Finishing Degree, it was suggested that Colleges could follow the Arts & Letters model, which has been recently approved by the CSU Chancellor's Office. T. Migliaccio stated that he would follow up with department chairs of the impacted programs to discuss the next steps in program development.

7. Information Items.

- **Drop Policy, Amendment of & Grade Appeal Policy, Amendment of.** With little time remaining, Chair Escobar briefly mentioned the two (2) carryover items from last year.

Meeting Schedule for Fall 2016

~~September 2~~
September 16
October 7

October 21
November 4
November 18

December 2

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Sue C. Escobar, Committee Chair