

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

November 8, 2017

Present: Prof. Laura McClusky, Provost Cindy Speaker, Prof. Katie Waugh (Chair)

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm

1. Nov. 1 minutes approved.
2. Discussion of Academic Calendar:
 1. Committee shared feedback from colleagues:
 1. Interest in revisions to Spring Semester, particularly the length of Winter Break (multiple requests for a longer break).
 1. Discussion of policies and execution of Senior Week, and hypothetical alternate timelines for grades, diploma production, and Senior Week activities.
 2. Need for updated data on student experience of Break: Do students use this in productive ways? Is our current Break too short for them to do so?
 2. Some interest in week-long Thanksgiving break, rather than Fall break.
 1. Committee discussed possible options that would place a Fall break outside of the customary second Monday & Tuesday of October.
 2. Discussion of impact on course pacing for both 2-day and full week Thanksgiving options.
 3. Minimize "alternate days" in schedule, if possible
 4. Schedule and timing of Day for Faculty and First Year Advising
 2. Committee determined several calendar-related issues to discuss with ASAA, and will seek a joint committee meeting in the coming week:
 - Academic Sanctions
 - Senior Week
 - First Year Advising
 - Student Experience during Breaks
 - Length of Winter Break (Retention? Student activities?)
 - Reading Period/Study Days
 3. Committee determined a need to review entire year's schedule and solicit more feedback before truly moving forward. Consequently we will make a goal to implement a new schedule for the 2019-2020 academic year.
3. Initial discussion of Committee's role in Assessment: Committee will review Assessment procedures and determine appropriate guidance to distribute to colleagues at the end of the semester. To prepare, the committee (particularly those new to Assessment) will begin to review "Assessment Basics," "Guidelines for Writing the Assessment Plan," and "Guidelines for Writing the Annual Assessment Report."

Meeting Adjourned: 4:52pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Waugh