

APRCA Committee Report to Faculty Senate – May 2021

April 19, 2021

Committee charge and membership

The charge and membership for the Academic Program Reduction and Curricular Adjustments Committee are listed on the Faculty Senate website on the [APRCA committee webpage](https://www.pdx.edu/faculty-senate/academic-program-reduction-and-curricular-adjustments-ad-hoc-committee) at <https://www.pdx.edu/faculty-senate/academic-program-reduction-and-curricular-adjustments-ad-hoc-committee>.

Committee accomplishments and ongoing tasks

1. APRCA Principles and priorities

- a. An APRCA subcommittee created a semi-final draft of the committee's [Principles and Priorities document](#), which is now open for comment on the APRCA website. Notice about the [comment form](#) went out in the Currently and also was announced at the Winter Symposium on 4/15. The Principles and Priorities will also play a roll in college-level meetings being scheduled this spring (on which more below).

2. **Website:** The APRCA website communicates information about program reduction to the campus community.

3. **Special Meeting of the Faculty Senate – Article 22.** Article 22 of the [PSU-AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement](#) sets forth a process (see sections 3 (a) – (f)) of information-sharing and consultation for circumstances in which the University engages in budget-related layoffs. Included in the process is a presentation of budget-related materials at a meeting of the Faculty Senate. On February 4th, President Percy sent a memo to Faculty Senate Presiding Officer Gamburd invoking Article 22 for program reduction in the Intensive English Language Program (IELP).

- a. A special Faculty Senate **meeting** (as described in Article 22.3.c) took place from 3:00 – 5:00 PM Monday, March 15th. Following the President's presentation on March 15th, a 30-day comment period ensued. The APRCA website hosted links to two sets of comment forms, one for the President and one for the Faculty Senate.
- b. The **comments** collected on the APRCA form have been summarized by the APRCA committee and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and shared with President Percy. [The 8-page report](#) summarizes information from 102 comments and 19 documents received through the feedback form and provides the raw data in an [appendix](#). Once the President has had a chance to read the Faculty Senate report, the report will be posted on the APRCA website and shared with Faculty Senate through the May Senate meeting packet.
- c. Once the President has received and considered feedback from the PSU community, he may declare that a financial exigency exists or that the reduction or elimination of the IELP is necessary. If he moves forward in this way, he will put forth a **provisional plan** as outlined in Article 22.4. The President's provisional plan will be linked on the APRCA website. The PSU community will be invited for another 30-day period to comment on the plan, and the APRCA website will again host links to two sets of comment forms (one for the President and one for the Faculty Senate). The APRCA Committee and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee will again identify key themes in the comments, write a report, and share the data.

- d. At the conclusion of the second 30-day comment period, the President will announce a final plan and will notify the affected department about how the reductions will take place. Both the President and the Faculty Senate are committed to having the entire process unfold before 9-month faculty go off contract on June 16th.

4. Equity concerns for budget and program reduction conversations

- a. On April 1st, APRCA Committee members met with Dean Marvin Lynn and Dean Cliff Allen, Co-Chairs of the GDI Task force on Leadership and Infrastructure, to discuss how best to integrate considerations of diversity, equity, and inclusion into discussions about and policies related to budget reductions.

5. Partner with the Provost's Program Reduction Working Group

- a. The Provost's Program Reduction Working Group (PPRWG) in conjunction with the APRCA committee presented on April 8th to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Portland State University Board of Trustees regarding plans for budget reductions.
- b. The Provost's Program Reduction Working Group (PPRWG) in partnership with APRCA plans in the near future to hold college- and school-level meetings with faculty regarding potential budget reductions in their units. Planning for these meetings is underway.