

To: Faculty Senate

From: Educational Policy Committee

Date: May 19, 2022

Subject: EPC Annual Report

Per the Constitution of the Portland State University Faculty, the charge of the Educational Policy Committee is as follows:

The Committee shall:

- 1) Serve as the faculty advisory body to the President and to the Faculty Senate on matters of educational policy and planning for the University.
- 2) Take notice of developments leading to such changes on its own initiative, with appropriate consultation with other interested faculty committees, and with timely report or recommendation to the Faculty Senate.
- 3) Make recommendations to the Senate concerning the approval of proposals from appropriate administrative officers or faculty committees for the establishment, abolition, or major alteration of the structure or educational function of departments, distinct programs, interdisciplinary programs, divisions, schools, colleges, centers, institutes, or other significant academic entities. All proposals must use the Process for Creation, Elimination and Alteration of Academic Units.
- 4) In consultation with the appropriate Faculty committees, recommend long-range plans and priorities for the achievement of the mission of the University.
- 5) Undertake matters falling within its competence on either its own initiative or by referral from the President, faculty committees, or the Faculty Senate.
- 6) Form subcommittees as needed to carry out its work.
- 7) Report to the Faculty Senate at least once each term.

The EPC is a university-wide committee appointed, as follows, by the Committee on Committees:

Co-chairs: Charles Klein (CLAS-SS ANT) & Mollie Janssen (SW)

AO: Cynthia Baccar, REG (2016-)

CLAS-AL (WLL): Jon Holt (2021-)

CLAS-AL (COMM) Lee Shaker (2021-)

CLAS-Sci (ESM): Linda George (2019-2022)

CLAS-SS (ANT): Charles Klein (2020-2022)

CLAS-SS (HST): Friedrich Schuler (2019-2022)

CLAS-SC (MTH): Gerardo Lafferriere (2020-)

COTA: Eleanor Erksine (2021-)

CUPA: David Kinsella (2021-)

LIB: Joan Petet (2021-)

MCECS: Tim Anderson (2019-)

OI: Michael Lupro (2019-)
 SB: Zafrin Rahman (2021-)
 SPH: Lynne Messer (2018-2022)
 SSW: Mollie Janssen (2018)
 Ex officio: Jill Emery (LIB), Budget Committee, and one (1 out of 2) student appointed by ASPSU, McKenna ZAndecki

Consultants:

Susan Jeffords, Provost
 Andreen Morris, OAA
 Kathi Ketcheson, Director, OIRP
 Kevin Reynolds, Vice Pres. for Finance & Administration

Report:

Fall/early Winter

In the beginning of Fall term EPC heard a presentation from the Registrar's office regarding a proposal to introduce a Monday/Wednesday scheduling grid with other patterns still available to those courses that need it. Presentation included reasoning, potential impacts, current practices and benefits. EPC provided feedback. Consensus was supportive of this change.

EPC representation on additional committees was decided.

Tim Anderson and Friedrich Schuler shared the responsibility of representation on the Budget Committee. Joan Petit agreed to represent EPC on APRCA and provided regular updates about the process as appropriate. The committee acknowledges with gratitude the additional commitment and work of these members.

Subcommittees were formed addressing three areas of focus; academic integrity of courses across modalities, administration reviews (establishing process/policies, etc.); defining departments and programs. Members of the defining departments and programs committee had additional responsibilities across the university that were barriers to meeting regularly. This subcommittee will carry into next AY as the lack of definition and clarification continues to cause confusion and be problematic across the university.

As requested, EPC provided feedback on the moratorium document and management of eliciting updates and reports from programs in moratorium as it had never been officially established. It was decided the responsibility would be with Curriculum Coordinator as it has been unofficially been managed well by this role for some time. It was also decided that the 3 year limit on a program in moratorium should remain, with option for extension with detailed justification provided.

Provost Jeffords presented early in Fall term regarding reappointment and review of Deans. Provost Jeffords provided history of what's been practiced since no process had previously existed, context, pilot and plan. Provost Jeffords also shared intent to create a Vice Provost of

Student Success position. EPC requested to review the job description. After presentations, related discussions and review of the provided job description EPC wrote a memo to summarize feedback and recommendations. EPC took this opportunity to incorporate recommendations from the administrative reviews subcommittee which was largely based on work completed last AY by the Faculty Senate Ad-Hoc Committee on Administrator Reviews dated May 17, 2021.

Michelle Giovannozzi (OAI) and Alex Sager presented as a representative of the university-wide committee that had been assessing online fees and the impacts. Michelle shared history regarding this issue, breakdown of committee members, process of inclusion of stakeholders, overview of work and final options being presented across campus. Feedback was provided both in the meeting as well as in a formal memo to Michelle, copied to the Provost, from EPC. The memo incorporated discussions from additional meetings about course modalities related to online fees.

Winter term

Reviewed proposed uncoupling of Criminology and Criminal Justice from Hatfield School of Government while remaining in CUPA. After reviewing existing structure and policies regarding what constitutes a program change it was decided that it was a minor change and nothing needed to be submitted to EPC.

EPC received an update from member Michael Lupro regarding updates on the work being completed by the Administrative Code of Conduct Committee as these issues were addressed via EPC memo in Spring 2021.

Presentation of concerns by Kellie Gallagher (IELP) and Lynne Santelman (Applied Linguistics) regarding PSU's use of Duolingo (DET) as assessment of academic English. EPC has been in communication with those initially involved in the pilot program regarding an inclusive process to analyze data from pilot and decision making regarding making this a permanent option. The communication and advocacy has continued through Spring term.

Spring

Becki Ingersoll and Nick Matlick presented, with the request for feedback, on a proposed change to allow interdisciplinary majors to use extra major courses to fulfill Junior Cluster requirements. Due to EPC's broad representation robust discussion ensued with consensus feedback was provided in the meeting (no memo issued) supporting this change for the four clearly identified interdisciplinary majors. This discussion brought up concern and need for further discussion regarding if interdisciplinary majors should be sustained at PSU or not.

The Academic Integrity subcommittee's work over the course of this AY has resulted in the development of a draft document intended to provide guidelines for instructors and students regarding expectations of courses across modalities. To date the document has been presented for feedback from OAA, AAUP and OAI. Due to the limited time left in this AY this work will carry over into Fall 2022 with the intention of finalizing it for distribution by end of Fall 2022.

Due to the impact the APRCA process is having on some units, EPC decided not to request Moratorium Reports from programs at this time. EPC acknowledges the stress and difficulty many are under and felt those reports could wait until Fall term.

Agenda items for last meetings in Spring term

Review of Proposal for Cybersecurity Center

Discussion of communication regarding potential next steps related to DET

Transition planning for the Academic Integrity subcommittee work

Credit hour definition presentation/discussion

Summer waitlist presentation/discussion

Additional notes

Copies of communication from EPC including memos and emails are available upon request.

Co-chair Mollie Janssen has agreed to continue as co-chair for next academic year. If a new co-chair has not been identified by the end of Spring term it will be the first item of business for the Fall 2022 meeting.

Four of EPC's members will be transitioning off this year. Friedrich Schuler, Lynne Messer, Linda George and Charles Klein (co-chair). The committee wants to acknowledge their service and contributions over the past few years. Their voices will be missed but we look forward to working with the new members next year.