

## Student Policy Committee (SPC)

### Student Policy Committee

October 21, 2020

### Minutes

**Present:** B. Achhpal, A. Coleman, W. Farley, M. Dodge, K. Marsland, Matt Ouimet

1. Meeting via Webex called to order at 12:15
  - SPC Chair Kate Marsland welcomed members, and introduced William (Bill) Farley (Anthropology) as a new member of the committee
  - Bill Farley volunteered to act as secretary for this meeting. Upon the suggestion of Dr. Achhpal, we agreed to take turns alphabetically acting in this role for future meetings.
2. Item: Academic Misconduct Policy Revision Update
  - We received new feedback from EC members and Jules Tetreault, Chris Piscitelli, the UASC and a new request from OIR regarding inclusion of language to address misconduct related to research practices
  - We decided to endorse the formation of an ad-hoc work group to address these new issues. This committee should be formed of representatives from the EC with Dr. Marsland representing the SPC. The revised policy would then be brought to the SPC for review before submitting to the Senate for approval. The goal remains to pass a revised policy this year that can be included in next year's catalog.
3. Item: Attendance Policy
  - SPC debated whether to approve the suggested changes from the chair to the reporting timeline for the attendance policy. We decided to wait to make any decisions on this matter until we could collect more information. We plan to invite someone from the registrar's office to come to a future meeting to discuss whether and how the attendance deadline can be moved. Issues to discuss include reporting requirements from the federal government, issues with student financial aid, and the alignment of these deadlines with the add/drop deadlines.
4. Item: Academic Standards for Post-Bac Students
  - SPC debated whether to approve suggested changes from the chair. We voted to endorse the proposed changes, which include eliminating current language that carries the GPA forward for students from their bachelor's degree into their Post-Bac degree work. Dr. Marsland will draft a resolution to this effect for the Faculty Senate's consideration.
5. Item: Academic Dismissal
  - The SPC debated whether the current language limiting the opportunity to request reconsideration of an academic dismissal to one should be changed. We did not feel we had enough information to endorse the suggested new language.

We intend to discuss this issue with the Academic Standing Committee and to ask the ASC to work with Harry Twyman to suggest revisions for our approval. Specifically, we want to know if there was a reason for this (or any) limitation and if such limitation(s) is/are still relevant.

6. Item: Pandemic P/F Policy
  - After much deliberation, the SPC endorsed a plan to largely extend the altered P/F policy adopted for the Spring 2020 semester to both the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters, barring an unexpected improvement in the pandemic in the spring. We will draft a resolution for the senate to accomplish the following:
    1. Extend the deadline for Fall 2020 P/F applications to 12/18/20.
    2. Offer an appeal process for students who miss the 12/18/20 deadline with a deadline of 12/23/20.
    3. Lift the course restrictions for P/F for LEP courses, and for Major and Minor courses when opted-in by departments in line with Spring 2020 policy
    4. Lift the cap on number of Ps in a semester and for the completion of a degree in line with Spring 2020 policy
    5. Work with Registrar to automate and streamline the process used to apply for P/F or for a P/F appeal. This automated process would eliminate cumbersome PDF forms used in Spring 2020, as well make it clear to students which courses are eligible for P/F and which are not.
    6. Retain the advisor/chair permission as a part of the automated process
    7. Extend this policy to the Spring 2021 semester (with appropriate deadlines to be determined) unless the university resumes normal operations or the Senate chooses to take further action
    8. The committee agreed to continue deliberations and finalize a recommendation via TEAMS
7. Item: Pandemic W Policy
  - After deliberation, SPC also endorsed a plan to extend the deadline for course withdrawals for Fall 2020 to 12/18/20, so that this deadline coincides with the P/F policy
  - We also endorsed a plan to follow the same Incomplete to Withdrawal plan as adopted for the Spring 2020 semester
  - The committee agreed to continue deliberations and finalize a recommendation via TEAMS
8. New Business
  - S/F Designations
  - Permanent revisions to the P/F policy
  - Exigent P/F/W policies
  - Improving communication of policies to students
9. The meeting was adjourned at 1:56

Respectfully submitted by W. Farley