Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee

February 26, 2015

Meeting Minutes

1. Minutes of the February 12, 2015 meeting were approved
2. Dr. Loranger informed the committee that she withheld the Athletics Training Admissions standards from the Executive Committee due to concerns regarding the impact on current students. After discussions the committee agreed to forward the policy to the Executive Committee with an addendum indicating a policy effective date of Summer 2016
3. Dr. Loranger informed the committee that the Executive Committee raised concerns regarding the Non-Contact Course Credit policy and an Internship policy passed by the Senate in 2013-14. Bryan Nethers reported that the Internship Policy has not been approved by the Provost due concerns regarding OBR / State regulations and financial aid implications. Dr. Loranger announced that she would followup with Dr. Sudkamp regarding both policies.
4. The following is an outline of the discussions between the committee and Carl Brun, VP for Curricular Programs, regarding Prior Learning Assessment:

* Three ways for PL credit
  + Credit by exam
    - Internal (such as language department testing)
    - Outside source
  + Credit for experience
    - Military process for course credit
  + Portfolio assessment
    - Internal / departments
    - CAEL
* The committee needs to determine the University’s mission/vision for a PLA policy
  + Start with OBR & state guidelines
  + No more than half of a degree via PLA
* Dr. Loranger:
  + Committee needs suggested language
    - Uniform way for credit to appear on transcripts
    - Non-CAEL methods of portfolio assessment
    - Standardized aspects
      * Consistent fee structure (currently some are free, some pay for credit)
        + Practical but boils down to cost of assessment
        + Any fee beyond a standard fee needs to be approved by Dr. Sudkamp
      * AP testing
      * Cost for CAEL assessment?
        + Dr. Brun will report back
      * Window for departments to designate courses for assessment
      * Consistent grading for credit by examination
      * Students not barred from purchasing credit
    - Treat PLA credit as AP credit (Pass/Fail)
    - Residency credit?
      * Ohio credits (Brun will follow-up)
      * WSU minimum = 30 semester credit hours
      * No, do not allow residency credit
    - How to address transfer PLA credit from other institutions?
      * Ohio Transfer Module / Tag Courses
      * Accept CAEL transfer credit?
        + Who evaluates?
      * Only accept credit for courses that WSU accepts locally
        + Dr. Brun will check with other institutions regarding how credit shows on their transcripts

1. Faculty Handbook - Grading System (pilot)

The committee reviewed feedback from the Graduate Council Policies Committee and agreed on the following changes and forward the policy to the Executive Committee:

* Classes -> courses
* Students -> undergraduate students
* Strike the graduate student exception

1. Undergraduate Language Requirement (pilot)

Due to high speaking & listening IELTS band scores, students are admitted that are underprepared in the areas of reading & writing. Dr. Loranger agreed to draft a policy that sets a minimum band score of 5.

1. Undergraduate Admissions Policy (pilot)

The committee reviewed the updated admissions language that was matched with language from the Graduate Policies Committee, and added that non-approved tests must be approved by the Faculty Senate. The updated policy will be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

1. International Program Recommendations (pilot)

The committee discussed the following aspects of the policy:

* Needs faculty oversight
* Instances of “should” changed to “must”
* Add language addressing the “language of instruction”
* Regular oversight / assessment
* When programs of study change they must be reapproved by UCC

1. Adjourn – the next meeting will be March 12, location TBD