



ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY MINUTES

The third meeting of the Academic Policy Committee for AY 2022-23 was held virtually via Zoom on December 5, 2022.

Present: Dr. Bridget Wadzuk (Chair), Dr. Craig Wheeland, Dr. Sherry Burrell, Dr. Michelle McKay, Dr. Qi Wang, Dr. Kamran Javadizadeh, Dr. Troy Shirangi, Dr. Jennifer Altamuro, Dr. John Sedunov, Mr. Andrew Lund, JD, Jennifer O'Hare, Dr. Christine Palus, Dr. Wen Mao, Dr. Bette Mariani, Dr. Michael Risch, JD, Dr. David Shaffer, Dr. Greg Hoskins, Mr. Tom DeMarco, JD, Dr. Stephanie Katz, Dr. Adele Lindenmeyr, Dr. Rachel Skrlac Lo, Mr. Charles Matthew, Mr. Brian Messalti, Ms. Ceydy Jaramillo

- 1) Dr. Wadzuk opened the meeting. All were welcomed, including Mr. Kevin Grubb and Dr. Alice Dailey, participants in today's discussion. Minutes up for approval, motions made and seconded, minutes were approved.
- 2) Discuss and Approval Vote of APC Protocol:
 1. Major changes include (1) reallocation of members to include Law (2) align how Faculty Congress have been navigating the selection process.
 2. Suggesting a forum of 13 voting members (previously 9); APC chair will be full-time faculty member.
 3. Dr. Wheeland made mention of two additions (1) the Guiding Principles and Protocols for University Committees (2) a sentence that APC membership will have majority of faculty.
 4. Protocol is consistent with the Guiding Principles and Protocols for University Committees.
 5. Dr. Wheeland noted the University Council document specifies that each Dean is a voting member of the APC. Deans can send a designee. If you would like to add faculty members, the request must be approved by Father Peter. Please send requests to Dr. Wheeland.
 6. Clarification needed in member section regarding which faculty members have two-year terms. Dr. Wheeland noted it is status quo and protocols are being followed as defined in the document. Voting rights have not changed. The only person who cannot vote is Dr. Wheeland.

7. Dr. Wadzuk stated the APC is a stand-alone university committee and is not a committee of Faculty Congress.
8. Dr. Wheeland stated the document can always be amended again. Dr. Wadzuk noted motions made to approve and APC approved the protocol.

3) Updates from Dr. Wheeland:

1. Expressed thanks to Katie Haymaker who found missing link to university governance documents on Handbooks & Guides webpage. Page is now restored.
2. In the process of developing a new webpage with five university standing committees.
3. URJDC update: Dr. Terry Nance, Dr. Hibba Abugideiri and Dr. Sherry Bowen are working on founding document. Final budget figures are being put together, should be ready early in the new year. Suggestion made for Terry, Sherry, and Hibba to attend future APC meeting.

4) Discussion with Mr. Kevin Grubb, Associate Vice Provost, Career & Professional Development, and Dr. Alice Dailey, Director of Faculty Affairs, on professional development skills as part of curricular skills for students:

1. Dr. Dailey met with campus leaders and noted one main topic of conversation is student anxiety regarding their futures. Disconnect exists between student ideas and actual facts when entering a job search. Students have emphasis on multiple majors, etc., and that is not necessary. There are numerous ways in which student ideas might be shaped by academic policy. Need to stimulate conversation on how academic policy can address these issues and how to signal to students what courses are actually needed.
2. Mr. Grubb noted other institutions are giving framework on what skills students need. Skill and competency mapping seem promising across these institutions. Same principles apply to undergraduate and graduate programs.
3. Mr. Grubb opened the floor to discussion:

Discussion ensued regarding faculty anxiety and how boundaries need to be set. Need exists to generate a set of recommendations and hold institutional conversation regarding work/life balance. Faculty anxiety and student anxiety are two separate discussions and should be kept separate.

4. Mr. Grubb noted next steps to discuss student anxiety:

- i) Faculty voice is paramount. Does APC feel this is worth further discussion?
- ii) Is there an interest in having this conversation more often?
- iii) Is this already happening? If so, where, how and what has been happening.

Discussion ensued regarding what identifiers must be focused on - where are students feeling anxiety, how does anxiety track across majors, how do we find out what students are saying, need to identify core competencies. Faculty must take a closer look at what they're requiring of students for a major. Advising comes into play, need to not just help students figure out what they want to do, but how they can course correct over time. There is not just one pathway.

5. Mr. Grubb expressed gratitude for all the feedback and would like the conversation to continue.

Dr. Wadzuk gave thanks to all.

