

COMMITTEE: Admissions & Retention Policies

MEETING DATE: October 2, 2017

PERSON PRESIDING: Jay Newhard

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Daniel Shouse, Gregory Lapicki, Beth Thompson, Guglielmo Fucci, Kaye Dotson, and Jay Newhard

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Fletcher, Jayne Geissler, Amy Frank, and Stephanie Michelle Mortensen

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Stiller and Lynn Roeder

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: John Stiller and Lynn Roeder discussing the Student Absence Policy with regards to medical absences

Discussion: John Stiller and Lynn Roeder gave a detailed overview of the proposal to amend the Student Absence Policy by adding language addressing medical absences. The new language would task the Student's affairs' office to decide whether a medical absence is excusable or not in cases where the student and the faculty disagree on the gravity of the medical issue prompting the absence. Lynn Roeder gave a number of particular examples in in order to more clearly explain to the committee how the Students' affairs office handles medical absences. Since right now there is no clear path to follow for students and faculty when a medical emergency arises the new language should help in dealing with these situations. It was also mentioned that the Office of Student's affairs is better equipped for making decisions regarding the seriousness of a medical issue since they can request related documentation. Newhard asked about criteria that the Office of Student's affairs uses to judge a medical issue a true emergency. To conclude the discussion Lynn Roeder stated that the new language would relieve the faculty from the burden of making a decision on the gravity of a student's medical emergency for the purpose of excusing absences from class.

Action Taken: Fletcher moved to accept the new language and add it to the Faculty Manual. Thompson seconded. A vote was taken by show of hands.

IN FAVOR: Daniel Shouse, Gregory Lapicki, Beth Thompson, Guglielmo Fucci, John Fletcher, Jayne Geissler, Amy Frank, and Stephanie Michelle Mortensen

OPPOSED: None

ABSTAINED: Jay Newhard

The motion passed.

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item: Discussion about designation in Banner for courses that have zero textbook costs

Discussion: The chairman of the committee summarized the status of the discussion regarding the designation in Banner for courses that have zero textbook costs to John Stiller. Stiller stated that since a vote has been taken on the issue the committee needs to agree on who is going to present the motion to the Faculty Senate and needs to discuss the best way to present it. Lapiki mentioned that the committee needed to vote to decide who would present the motion to the Faculty Senate and that the committee also needed an example of how the designation for courses that have zero textbook costs will look like in Banner. Newhard mentioned that he did request an example from the appropriate office but, at the time of the meeting, he had not received it yet. Moreover, Newhard mentioned that he would like for the committee to discuss the issue further in order to be better prepared when presenting the motion to the Faculty Senate. Stiller mentioned that if the committee wants to revisit the vote either 2/3 of the members need to agree on a revote without prior notice or 50%+1 need to agree on a revote with prior notice. The motion to revisit the vote must be presented by someone who has voted in favor the first time the vote was taken. Stiller reiterated that the committee needs to be well-prepared before the Senate presentation otherwise the Senate might decide to send the issue back to the committee for further discussion. Geissler asked about what are the main issues with the zero cost textbook designation. The main issues were basically divided in two categories: logistic problems and problems related to academic freedom. The committee discussed about who should be presenting the motion to the Faculty Senate. After the discussion Lapiki nominated Fucci to be the presenter and the Faculty Senate and Fucci agreed. Fucci asked the committee to send him arguments in favor of the motion that he can use when presenting it to the Senate.

Action Taken: Lapiki nominated Fucci to be the presenter and the Faculty Senate and Fucci agreed.

Assigned additional duties to:

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm

NEXT MEETING: November 6, 2017

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: