

COMMITTEE: Admissions & Retention Policies

MEETING DATE: January 25, 2021

PERSON PRESIDING: Eli Hvastkovs

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: David Hisle, Stephanie Jung-in Bae, Michael Baker, Joshua Gardner

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Steven Asby, Cynthia Wagoner, Stan Eakins, Angela Anderson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Purificación Martínez, Rachel Baker

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Approval of minutes from 11/2/2020 meeting

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Minutes of 11/2/2020 meeting approved.

Agenda Item: P/F Policy

Discussion:

Chair Martínez: Provost says that we need to be prepared in case there is a request for P/F in the spring. No rush, time to deliberate. Info has been gathered by Angela re: what other UNC institutions have done. Most have done pass/fail in a different way from what we have. Feedback has been sought from advisors and concerns have been received from dept chairs. Most important message: In conversations with the provost, it was understood that everything is very different this time: no blocks, starting on time, students could choose class format. University is better equipped to deal with covid-related issues than in 2020. P/F may not be needed but if there may be pressure from SGA for such a policy. Provost emphasized that time should be taken to make a decision before presenting to faculty senate.

If we do go online, we could have a more nuanced P/F policy. Limit use/only allowing it for certain classes or a "low pass" option. Other models could be implemented. Start looking at the info that was provided and think about what kind of P/F policy would be recommended in the event that we go online. 32% are F2F. maybe 3% in Arts & Sciences. You might decide not to recommend to do pass/fail. Think about what scenario would lead us to contemplate pass/fail and what it would look like.

Angela Anderson: (Shares Special Grading Accommodations Dashboard) COB students used it the most. Number one use of pass/fail was in the math department.

Eli Hvastkovs: Can see people's concerns. Students may not feel the need to put as much effort into classes if they're planning to take a pass.

Stan Eakins: Would like to see some evidence that P/F really impacted student effort.

Chair Martínez: WI course instructors have reported issues with students basically doing the minimum to pass.

David Hisle: Library has seen fewer request for help with research papers.

Stephanie Bae: Intended accounting majors may not be adequately prepared for higher level courses but they could get admitted anyway. Then those students may have to move to another major.

Chair Martínez: ECU has more ways for students to get connected now than before.

Angela Anderson: More programs are including laptop requirements. Lots of things happened in the fall that will hopefully not be replicated this spring. If a student withdraws from a class for a COVID-related reason, then they will be allowed to withdraw.

Stan Eakins: Since most students are taking at least one online class, they have the equipment. Students knew what they were registered for.

Joshua Gardner: ECU students may not have the financial resources that students at other schools have.

Angela Anderson: Charlotte is doing their own thing that's different from policies at most other UNC institutions

Chair Martínez: Charlotte faculty are very concerned about that.

Stephanie Bae: How is P/F affecting retention?

Angela Anderson: Students who should not have been retained were retained.

Steven Asby: We are not in a normal semester/normal world. We should consider how pandemic circumstances might impact students.

Joshua Gardner: Some faculty may have unreasonable expectations. We shouldn't send the message that if you can't do it, you shouldn't be here.

Angela Anderson: Advisors have concerns. If we want to go with P/F for reasons that Steven and Josh indicated, blanket P/F is not the way to go.

Stan Eakins: A limit to the number of P/Fs might be desirable.

Michael Baker: "Low Pass" option sounds good, may make limiting use to a specific number of classes/credit hours less necessary.

Cynthia Wagoner: Might be good for students to have a choice.

Angela Anderson: Committee could recommend to postpone withdraw date. Quite a bit of concern about some of the instructions that's happening. Petition to do live teaching.

Chair Martínez: Faculty Senate Officers are adamant that asynchronous is better and more fair for DE.

Angela Anderson: There are lots of different opinions out there. Some of the demand for live teaching is from parents.

Chair Martínez: Whatever resolution you come up with, expect a lot of questions from faculty senate. Students are being told that at this point, P/F is not an option. Must be an internal deliberation.

Action Taken: N/A, will discuss further

Assigned additional duties to: Members should ask advising cohort their views on P/F

The meeting adjourned at 5:12pm

NEXT MEETING: February 1, 2021

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: P/F Policy, Incomplete policy, and AIV policy