The Educational Affairs Committee met on March 14, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. online via Zoom.

The minutes of the October 18, 2021, meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Chair Annette Poulsen reported that since the last EAC meeting, the Petitions Subcommittee reviewed 95 student appeals. Of those appeals, 68 were approved and 27 were denied.

Chair Poulsen provided a brief update to the committee regarding approval by the University Council for proposals that were previously submitted by the EAC and the University Curriculum Committee. These include approval of the following proposals: a proposal to change the number of
credits hours for which a student can register without receiving an override; the “Connect and Complete: Persistence Framework” proposal; and the updated “A Culture of Honesty” policy. One proposal submitted by the EAC to the UCC, Policy 4.06-5, Air Force ROTC Commitment and Summer Break policy, was returned by the Council to the UCC for further consideration.

Jean Martin-Williams provided the committee with an update from the subcommittee working on the proposed new policy 4.06-6, University-sponsored activities. The committee discussed this proposal at length and agreed that further discussion concerning the possibility of drafting “best practices” would be need at another meeting. The committee agreed that a meeting should be scheduled in April to further discuss this issue.

The committee next discussed an issue brought to the committee by the Registrar concerning whether or not the First Honor Graduate status should be awarded to a student on Academic Renewal. After reviewing both the First Honor Graduate policy and the Academic Renewal policy, David Mustard made a motion stating that the Educational Affairs Committee’s interpretation of the First Honor Graduate policy is that the it applies to all coursework; therefore, a student on Academic Renewal would be ineligible to receive the honor. The motion was seconded by Sudhagar Mani. The committee then unanimously approved the motion.

The committee next heard a presentation from Student Government Association member Austin Myre concerning a proclamation from SGA regarding a proposal for a new policy on grade substitution. Following the presentation, the committee discussed the proposed policy change and raised questions concerning the proposal. Following discussion, the committee agreed that the SGA should revise and resend the proposal to the EAC so that it will address some of the concerns raised by the committee during discussion.

Chair Poulsen reiterated that she would work on scheduling a meeting for the committee in April. At this meeting, the committee will vote on a new chair for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Poulsen, Chair
Educational Affairs Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu
Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro