

William Paterson University Faculty Senate Councils
Year-End Report

Academic Year 2021-2022

1. Council: Academic Standards Council

2. Council Members:

College of Arts and Communication: [Vacant]
College of Business: Siamack Shojai
College of Education: Sam Fancera
College of Humanities and Social Sciences: Maria Kromidas
College of Science and Health: Joset Brown
Library: Richard Kearney
Professional Staff: Tom Nemeth
Adjunct at-Large: Ali Ammar
Administration: Sandra Hill

3. Council Charges and Summary of Activities:

Standing Charges:

1. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards.
2. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards in curricular issues.
3. Liaise with university officials responsible for all academic policy matters to conduct an ongoing review of their effectiveness.

Priority Charges for AY 2021-2022:

1. Establish criteria for judging the effectiveness of academic policies, consulting with Jonathan Lincoln for recommendations of priorities for updating.
2. Complete the revision of the Academic Integrity Policy, in consultation with Sandy Hill.
3. Clarify alternative credit options for PLA awards (e.g. challenge exams, AP, CLEP, portfolio assessments) with Kara Rabbitt. Ensure program faculty understand PLAs and develop guidelines for transparency with students.
4. Review transfer credit GPA policy for returning adult students for possible revision that aligns with needs and circumstances of adult learners (in consultation with Kara Rabbitt).

2021-2022 Summary of Activities: The Council has met infrequently this year. For the last few years we have struggled with an inability to identify a meeting time that will work for everyone. Nevertheless, we were able to make progress on the following:

- The Council reviewed three proposed policies from the administration pertaining to:
 - A pass/no credit option for students
 - The introduction of seven-week courses outside the WPOne context
 - A requirement that open educational resources and other materials involving no direct cost to students be implemented for all 1000-level courses

and provided feedback to the Senate.

5. Recommended Charges for the Next Academic Year:

1. Establish criteria for judging the effectiveness of specific academic policies that fall within the Council's charge (#3) for review.
2. Identify the specific offices with which the Council should be in communication to conduct a review of academic policies (standing charge #3).
3. Establish a calendar for conducting a review of the effectiveness of specific academic policies (standing charge #3).

6. Please provide suggestions for how the council can be better utilized in the next year:

- Establishing a record of written policy effectiveness reviews (to be maintained in the Senate office) will help the Senate and the Council by creating a historical record for tracking and context, while providing a basis for continuity in the Council's work even as its members rotate in and out.