

Spring 3-28-2022

## Academic Policies Committee of the Academic Senate 2022-03-28

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Academic Policies Committee

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## APC Minutes

March 28, 2022

Approved April 4, 2022

**Committee Members:** Phil Anloague (ex officio); Philip Appiah-Kubi; Deb Bickford (ex officio); Laurel Bird; Jenna Borrelli; Art Busch; Alison Carr-Chellman; Trevor Collier; Jennifer Dalton; Neomi DeAnda (chair); Greg Elvers; Harold Merriman; Danielle Poe; Dan Reyes; Sarah Webber

Guest: **Carissa Krane**

1. Approval of the [meeting minutes – Monday, March 21, 2022](#)
2. SET discussion w/FAC. **Carissa Krane** (*guest*)

- The majority of what is being recommended is already in the policy
- SAPC was generating two new policies, one sent to APC (implementation), FAC (interpretation)
- FAC did not want to add another layer of discrepancy to policy
- What would be entailed would be to revise current policies
- We do have guidelines that are simply not being followed. Maybe it is more useful to do an educational campaign. For example, here are the 16 things that should be pursued. We think we should implement what should be done according to the Faculty Handbook
- FAC talked about not reporting departmental averages. Our concern is that if you have no benchmarks with a departmental average, how do you interpret it? [more below]
- Reporting numbers without benchmarking would be problematic.
- SAPC talked about ongoing training and professional development; FAC thought this would not be likely to produce demand– a deep dive by the department chair every time a person is teaching would be difficult
- We need better communication of current expectations and policies; better professional development for chairs (some of the problem was chair overuse of departmental averages). FAC recommends it be 1-3 people charged during the summer to go over all the language, eliminate the existing inconsistencies, and then bring the entire thing in the Fall to the Senate, and do a series of revisions of existing policies.
- All of this is captured in the folder shared on the APC site
- APC looked at where SET administration is mentioned in the documents. DOC 2010-02
- A change for the document about when the grades would be released for the fall semester.
- In implementation, there are sections in the faculty handbook that allow additional questions be added to the survey– it seems that individual faculty cannot add questions– the Handbook needs to clarify this.

- People agreed that the grades should be released when they are available, not held until after the holiday/new year.
- Carissa said they also talked about SET processes vs. instruments. These two are conflated in places. Student evaluation of Teaching is a process by which students can provide information. These two interpretations are conflated throughout the document.
- In SET, we are going after the learning environment. Lee Dixon has championed that faculty should be reflecting on their student evaluations and scores– what is important is what you do with them, not the actual scores. What do the scores tell you about your teaching and your environment, and what are you going to do about it? (more below)
- Part of the improvement of learning and teaching is about what you are doing with it– not about the instrument or the interpretation of the results of the instrument. Implementation of SET as an instrument vs. SET as a process.
- It is easy to collapse SET as a whole to the summary statistics. The comments are important, but some departments or units do not reflect upon them.
- Having a strong emphasis on what you learned and what the next steps are– this mirrors what we are trying to do with assessment at the university