

Academic Senate Minutes April 13, 2020

Roll call

Eric Kuehnl (Senate VP/CCC Faculty Co-Chair)

Robert Cormia (Senate Secretary/Treasurer)

Isaac Escoto (Senate President)

Mary Thomas (LIBR)

Tracee Cunningham (CNSL)

Voltaire Villanueva (CNSL)

Kate Jordahl (FA/COMM)

Robert Hartwell (FA/COMM)

Sara Cooper (BHS/Faculty Association Liaison)

Rachelle Campbell (BHS)

Kathryn Maurer (BSS)

Maria Dominguez (BSS)

David McCormick (LA) - absent

Amber La Piana (LA)

David Marasco (PSME)

Matthew Litrus (PSME)

Mimi Overton (SRC)

Donna Frankel (Part Time R(on))]]Tdtthw Lii' D46516GtMN@p22-322 TdLoug 2.339 0 (Tr)0.1.7 (Li)K0.7aw)1.6 (

There was no public comment. Approval of the minutes by consensus. There was no consent calendar - Isaac mentioned we did appoint faculty to committees at the last meeting.

Order of topics:

1. Grading / transcript P/NP
2. COVID-19 check-in
3. Commencement
4. Senate Constitution

Grading

all Course Outlines of Record (COR) allow for a P/NP. Do we want to temporarily suspend this requirement?

Kristy commented that whether or not the COR allows for a P/NP, the temporary guidance from the Chancellor's Office is that students could request a P/NP, regardless of the (local) regulations. Kristy commented that she needs guidance from us if we decided NOT to follow the guidance for the Chancellor's office. Amber commented on behalf of a constituent that at least one student has used the guidance to circumvent dissatisfaction with a grade entered based on the student's progress before the shelter-in-place. The constituent expressed concern that the change was made without notice to the instructor. Kristy commented that students can ask for a "W" and get a full refund, but the difference between the EW, NP, or W does affect financial aid, and this could complicate the decision for students.

Kathryn asked what are the discussion points for faculty, for department heads, and at the division level, and it's a complex set of topics to manage. We agreed that this topic is important enough to keep discussing it, but need to be clear on decision points that need input.

Sara commented that it's important to understand these topics well enough to give students accurate advice. Comment that we need to have clarification from the College Curriculum Committee regarding letter grade requirements for major courses. Is this something we want to continue? Is this okay with Title 5?

Would we want a blanket policy to convert F to NP for winter and spring? David commented that division senators just need input from their division faculty to make this decision. Kristy commented that we should also follow up with the student reps. Student leaders have talked about a full waiver (to be released from the class) but student leaders suggested giving guidance on an individual basis P/NP, EW, or W with a full refund. But there are differences to the GPA. Sara suggested that a blanket policy would benefit students that didn't know about the P/NP shift from an "F". We want to make sure not just the students that happened to know the intricacies of current policy changes, benefit. Students sometimes (often) aren't aware about how classes are affecting their transcripts. Isaac will check in with Anthony about deadlines, and about how late a student can come in and request some of these changes. He'll also follow up with Leo Blas, re: how students might feel about all F grades showing up on the transcript as NP.

Isaac then mentioned an idea to extend the policy from F => NP to D => NP as well, but that this could disparage a student, as some D grades do count for GE. For winter, there is a deadline of 4/26 to request that change. Anthony said that if we are comfortable about this policy, about how the grade of F would appear on a transcript, what is the process and timeline to get there. And how do we inform students?

Isaac requested that senators contact their division faculty for feedback this week. The goal is to tell Anthony, by the end of the week, how faculty feel about the idea of having all F grades show up as NP on the transcript. Comment that some students may want an "F" instead of a "D", so

that they can retake the course. Isaac clarified that even if students get a grade of a NP, they can still repeat the course, and the new grade is what would count in the transcript.

FW would not be replaced with a NP. The temporary change we've been discussing is about a letter grade (of F) being replaced by an NP. David asked what about a student requesting that an FW be replaced by an EW? Kristy commented about FW and EW, have minutes show we will ask Anthony will check on the number of FWs and EWs being granted. Is it different from Winter (COVID) versus how things are going forward?

There is a concern that our short-term crisis could roll into a longer period. Kristy suggested do we even use FW in spring, and just go to a W? Kathryn discussed that many faculty (in her division) weren't even aware that an FW existed. Isaac commented that all faculty need to be aware of this AP (administrative procedure) 4230 (changes adopted last year April 19, 2019)

The administration and Academic Senate is advised to send a reminder to faculty what the options for letter grades are, including the "FW" FAQ. Kristy will help send the AP and FAQ to faculty. There is a separate FAQ about FWs. (Reminder FAQ and Kristy). F grades being reflected as NP, NOT CHANGING the grade an inCHA 7)1.7e1.7eparto a8 (ty)-17(i)-1.1 (oto)-1 (ng)C)-3.77H)

how to do something technically. How does a student reach the tech ambassadors. By email ambassadors@foothill.edu

Commencement - we need to make some decisions very quickly, i.e., next couple weeks. We can't do a physical ceremony; many colleges are planning on a virtual commencement. Mention that if we do some sort of virtual commencement, we should recognize the work our allied health students are putting in on the COVID-19 front.

Election and constitution, do we ask for a full vote for our P/T faculty?

Decision making process - one of the branches of that discussion is what role does Academic Senate, officers and faculty, what does the constitution ask of us, we need to look at our responsibilities as representatives and officers, and what do we want to add or subtract? We only have a little time to do this!

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.