

Academic Policies Committee Report 2025-2026

Committee chair: Douglas Eyman

Committee members: Christine Barthold, Johanna Bockman, Kerri LaCharite, Cristiana Stan

Charge: This Committee of the Senate shall concern itself with the applicability, appropriateness and reasonableness of academic policies that are University-wide in their scope, including those outlined in the catalog, and have implications for the standards and procedures of the various schools and colleges. This committee's reviews of academic policies of new or existing programs shall take into account the purpose and nature of the particular college or school as well as the goals of the University. It is recognized that while it is desirable for some academic policies to be University-wide, it is not the function of the Senate to enforce uniformity. Within these guidelines this Committee's responsibility shall include, but not be limited to:

- A. Existing degree programs;
- B. Standards and policies at both undergraduate and graduate levels concerning admissions, retention and suspension, graduation requirements, examinations and grading system, academic integrity, academic standards, student academic records, University courses, and any other academic policy that is published in the catalog;
- C. The academic calendar;
- D. Participation in the development of academic policies relating to new schools, colleges, centers, institutes, and degree programs; and E. Coordinating inter-college matters of an academic nature.

In furtherance of the responsibilities listed above, this committee will provide a Faculty Senate representative to the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, and a representative to the Policy Management Group.

New Academic Policies Approved by Faculty Senate:

- AP.1.1 Student Status (+ renumber AP 1 subsections) (approved 4/8)
- AP.8 Non-Degree Academic Credentials (approved 4/8)
- AP.9 Academic Standards (moved from elsewhere in the catalog and incorporated all new policies) (approved 4/8)

Academic Policies Revised/Updated and Approved by Faculty Senate:

- AP.1.4 Registration Procedures (approved 4/8)
- AP.1.5.6 Enrolling for Credit Without Grade Points (Satisfactory/No Credit) (approved 1/28)
- AP.1.6.7 Retroactive Drop with Dean or Dean's Designee Approval for Graduate Students (approved 1/28)

- AP.1.8 – Undergraduate Leave of Absence (approved 4/8)
- AP.3.2 Graduate Grading – Add ‘Satisfactory Withdrawal - SW’ option. (approved 3/4)
- AP.4.2.1 Concentrations in Dual Degree Programs (approved 3/4)
- AP.5.3.2 Requirements for Bachelor’s Degrees & 5.3.2.1 English Composition Requirement (change to C- minimum for ENGH 302) (approved 4/8)
- AP.9.4 Faculty Responsibilities (approved 4/8)
- Revision of “Undergraduate Appeals” section of the Student Rights and Responsibilities and minor edit to AP.3.9 Grade Appeals (approved 4/8)

Academic Policies returned for further revision before returning to Faculty Senate for a final vote (tabled):

- AP.9.5 Sanctions (returned to Academic Standards Committee)
- AP.3.3 Graduate Grading Scale – Eliminate B- grade (passed to Graduate Grading Taskforce for consideration); eliminate NA (never attended) (returned to registrar for more information)

University Policies presented to Faculty Senate for review:

- University Policy 3006: Course Modality (update: AP is working with PMG to add modalities to the catalog rather than in UP)

Other activity:

- Added reports from Graduate Council policy updates to AP announcements at Faculty Senate Meetings.
- Worked with PMG to bring University Policies related to or effecting academics to Faculty Senate for feedback as part of the policy development and approval process.
- Reviewed 2028-2029 calendar and Summer 2026 calendar.
- Recommended the formation of a Graduate Grading Task Force to O&O.
- Committee chair Eyman served as a voting member on the Graduate Council and the Policy Management Group (PMG).
- Committee member Bockman served as PMG alternate.
- Committee member Stan served as the AP representative to the Undergraduate Council.
- Committee member Barthold served as the AP representative to the Graduate Grading Task Force.

Questions from the Executive Committee

During the past calendar year has the President, Provost, or Senior Vice President (or their respective offices) announced initiatives or goals or acted upon issues that fall under the charge of your Committee? If so, was your Committee consulted by the President, Provost, or Senior

Vice President in a timely manner before the announcement or action? If not, do you believe your Committee should have been consulted? Would it have been helpful to have had the input of your Committee from the outset?

This year, the committee worked closely with the Policy Management Group's co-chairs and also worked with an ad hoc committee whose goal was to streamline and improve policy development, approval, and communication.

Did your Committee seek information or input from the President, Provost, or Senior Vice President or members of their staffs? If so, did they respond adequately and in a timely manner?

Our committee had occasion to communicate with the registrar's office, and we also worked closely with the Provost's office when working with the Graduate Division/Graduate Council and the Policy Management Group. We have a good working relationship with the Associate Provosts who chair those committees.

Please suggest how you believe the President, Provost, Senior Vice President and/or their staffs might more effectively interact with your Committee in the future, if necessary.

N/A

Please relate any additional information you may have regarding interactions between your Committee and the President, Provost, Senior Vice President, or their staff.

N/A