

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Academic Policies Committee
Vol. 56, Meeting No. 14
Tuesday, March 31, 2020
Via BlueJeans

Present: *Members:* Bob Hooper, Marquell Johnson, Hans Kishel, Joel Meier, Bill Miller, Vicki Samelson, Evan Weiher
Guests: Margaret Cassidy, Patricia Kleine, Marc McEllistrem, Darrell Newton, Jean Pratt

Presiding: Chair Marquell Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from March 17, 2020

- Motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2020, as distributed. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously (6-0-0).

2. Proposal for Audit and Control Minor [code 720-405] Suspension

- Motion to approve the Proposal for Audit and Control Minor [720-405] Suspension. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously (6-0-0).

3. Proposal for Academic Department Designation and Rename [Materials Science Program]

- Marc McEllistrem was in attendance to provide information and answer questions. Program has grown to three majors, including two new Biomedical Engineering faculty members; diversity of majors in program has grown; faculty expertise has broadened. Name change reflects the expansion beyond Materials Science. Confusion surrounding the word *program* vs. *department* by “outside stakeholders”, would also provide a clearer internal identity and for recruitment
- Make sure proposal differentiates between a Materials Science Center and a new Department of Materials Science and Biomedical Engineering. MSC is a separate entity – Marc serves as program director and Doug Dunham serves as the Center’s director.
- Department will be within Arts and Sciences but are there procedural impacts, change in reporting structure, need to establish a DEP/DPC?
 - Currently have a PEP/PPC and do everything departments do; there is no required procedure change
- Motion to approve the Proposal for Academic Department Designation and Rename [Material Science Program]. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously (6-0-0).

4. Miscellaneous Business

- Pass/Fail Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Option Discussion
 - Student petition with 1,700 joiners requesting pass/fail option
 - Some schools have mandatory S/U and for others it is optional (e.g., Madison is allowing students to request S/U at any point, including up to 8 days after grades have been submitted)
 - C or better is Pass and C- is Fail
 - There are a lot of implications needing review: graduation requirements, what counts in majors and minors, repeatability, registration, Dean’s List
 - Would like another APC Meeting to examine pros and cons before this goes forward
 - Concern that some students aren’t going to perform as well as they could in-person, also graduate admission GPA implications

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- WI State Board of Accountancy – if you have a Pass/Fail would be accepted, not a requirement within their licensing standard; if following Madison’s model, would put the decision in the students’ hands to do research and determine their best option
- Release a statement informing student body options are being discussed
- Faculty assign the grade (not an S/U), Registrar translates it
- Policy to override Catalog policy?
- APC’s conversation with VC Haven has been canceled due to COVID-19 and will hopefully be revisited fall semester
- Would like a report on financial ramifications of COVID-19 on the institution’s budget

Chair Marquell Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Forcier
Secretary for the Meeting