

Educational Policies Committee
Minutes from February 13, 2019 Meeting

In attendance:

Robert Smith
Sharon Gravett
Kelly Davidson
Nicole Alemanne
Stanley Jones
Laura Carter
Ryan Hogan
Lisa Long
Christy Croft
Ken Smith
Samantha Paul
Kendrick Coleman
Greg Henderson
Krupesh Patel
Matthew Kolakowski

- 11:03 Kelly Davidson called the meeting to order. She thanked everyone for coming and especially to the guests Dr. Gravett & Provost Smith for being at the meeting and helping to guide the conversation on the policy discussion regarding repeating courses.
- After brief introductions of everyone in the room, Provost Smith gave a brief historical overview of the current repeat policy. He also included mathematical examples of how the current policy impacts students' grade point averages. He also spoke to how students could be placed on probation or suspension under the current policy. He suggested that if a true repeat policy existed, it could help with some of the current retention issues.
- Ryan Hogan said how supportive Admissions was towards adopting a repeat policy. He wanted everyone to be clear if this was approved this would not impact things like the HOPE scholarship. During a few of the open forums, some students were under the impression that adopting a repeat policy would impact their eligibility for HOPE. Ryan suggested if the policy was approved that we make clear to the student population there would not be a change on some of the Financial Aid processes like HOPE.
- Nicole Alemanne suggested referring to this policy as "undergraduate GPA recalculation" so there was not confusion with graduate level students.
- Kelly gave a timeline on having a suggested policy in place by the March Faculty Senate meeting.
- Kelly shared concerns she received from faculty wanting to be certain the consideration of a repeating courses should not be confused with academic "forgiveness".
- Committee members discussed having a policy of 3-5 attempts.
- Stanley asked everyone to consider to think how a policy would be implemented from Information Technology's perspective. Greg said it might be best and less data entry to have a policy on each course.
- Lisa Long suggested including language on the policy that it only applies to VSU courses and not transient courses.
- Committee members also discussed the need for proper education with advisors on this policy in case students were not aware of the change.

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- James LaPlant suggested keeping the policy very simple and not making it too restrictive because it would complicate implementation.
- There was lengthy discussion on how to implement this GPA policy for students that repeat a course for a class that was taken before the implementation date.
 - Example: If the policy is approved for Fall 2019, what if the student took a course in Fall 2018, did not do well, then in Spring 2019 took the course then.
 - It was resolved that it would not be an issue from an Information Technology perspective.
- Kelly concluded the meeting at 12:05 p.m. and said she would send out a draft Google doc version of the policy for everyone to consider. She also said she would try to organize another meeting soon.