

Committee on Policy Review (CPR) Fall 2022 Semester Report

Membership for 2022-2023

Chair: Cindy MacGregor, COE; Mike Hudson, CHHS, Faculty Senate Chair; Elizabeth Walker, COAg, Faculty Senate Chair-Elect; Will McClain, CoAg, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee Chair; Rebecca Woodard, CHHS; Cathy Pearman, COE; Patrick Hurn, Human Resources representative, *ex officio*; Chris Craig, Office of the Provost, *ex officio*; Angela Young, Office of the Registrar, *ex officio*; Rachael Dockery, General Counsel, *ex officio*; and Kate Wissell, SGA rep, *ex officio*.

Membership (from Bylaws): The Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate, and the Chair of the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee shall be members of the Policy Review Committee.

A minimum of three additional faculty members will be appointed by the Chair of the Faculty Senate, so as to provide representation from various academic colleges. These additional faculty members will serve a two-year term and may be reappointed for up to two consecutive terms. One of these faculty members will be appointed by the Chair of the Faculty Senate to serve as committee chair.

The Student Government Association shall provide a representative to the committee who will be *ex officio* without vote. The Director of Human Resources, the Provost, a representative from the Registrar's office, and General Counsel will be *ex officio* members without vote.

Purpose (from Bylaws)

Shall meet up to twice monthly to discuss pending policies under consideration by university leadership and to review current content in the university Policy Library. Shall identify current and emerging content in the university Policy Library (excluding the Faculty Handbook) that should be reviewed by the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee or warrants further review by the faculty. Shall prepare and present periodic reports with recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding policies being referred to the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee, pending operating policies (OP) under consideration by university leadership, and other Policy Library content that should be further reviewed by the faculty.

Policies Reviewed and Actions Taken

- Medical Excuse notes and the University Syllabus Template for Seated Classes. *We concluded our review of this matter, brought to us for review by Avery Russell, and sent him our response. The details of the response can be found in the Spring 2022 report from this committee.*
- Comparison of language in the *Faculty Handbook* and the Provost website regarding the tenure and promotion process, particularly as pertains to the expectation of external reviews. *Our committee oversaw some adjustments to the website language and its congruence with the Faculty Handbook.*

- Changes to *Op5.01-3 Freshman Admission Requirements* updated for a lower high school GPA for test optional and *p5.01-5 Admission Policy for Students with a High School Equivalency Diploma* were also updated/revised. *Rachael Dockery informed our committee of these changes, which were vetted through ALC and AC.*
- Minimum Blackboard Expectations for Faculty. *A subcommittee of CPR worked on recommended changes to the Faculty Handbook as per the SGA resolution. That language is currently under review by FHRC.*
- Comprehensive Exam policy (Op3.19-6) lacks adequate faculty representation through the final stage. *Our committee reviewed this policy and related academic policies. We will be recommending adjustments to such policies, specifically to make the Provost Office the highest level of appeal rather than the Office of the President and mandate the use of input from faculty and students involved. These proposed policy changes would go to ALC and AC for review and approval.*
- Make-up exam requirements as per COVID-19 accommodations. *The committee discussed a specific situation in which a faculty member was expected to offer a make-up exam using justification from information posted on the Magers Wellness Center website. Our examination of this matter, through counsel from Rachael Dockery, underscores the “return to normal” and the authority of the faculty and their course policy statements, unless an accommodation is documented through DRC. Thus, the Faculty Handbook is the policy authority on this matter, not information posted elsewhere.*
- FHRC. *Our committee serves in an advisory role to any proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook.*
- Registrar’s Office. *Our committee serves in an advisory role to any proposed policy changes in the Registrar’s office. We have not been asked to review any policies during the fall 2022 semester.*