

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
MINUTES  
MARCH 5, 2021

PRESENT: S. Vidussi, Chair; G. Long, Vice Chair; B. Babcock; G. Funning; E. Goodman; J. Guo; C. Lussier; M. Maduro; L. Mangolini; A. Sood; B. Wong; C. Zhou

GUEST: M. Assaf, ASUCR Student Representative; C. Simons, GSA Student Representative

ABSENT: J. Allison, UCEP Rep.; I. Kaloshian; F. Zarinebaf

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 AM.

The Chair informed the Committee of an email sent to the Senate Chair noting concern regarding departments/programs developing courses with content from other disciplines. The Senate Chair will discuss the issue with Executive Council.

The Committee reviewed and voted to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2021 meeting.

The Committee's representative to the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) Juliann Allison provided the Committee with a written summary from the March 1, 2021 UCEP meeting. UCEP requested that representatives gather feedback from their Committees on campus policing and police policies. The Committee reviewed proposed revisions to University-wide policy for police policies and made several recommendations. The Committee noted concern that the Use of Force (819) policy notes that the review process is conducted by police and recommended that stakeholders outside of the police department also be able to review use of force cases to eliminate bias from the police. The Committee noted concern that there are no disciplinary actions described in Body Worn Audio/Video Systems (1510) for police officers who do not have their audio/video systems on. Additional concern was noted that the Body Worn Audio/Video Systems (1528D) policy does not mention who has access to video footage and who is able to first review the footage after an incident. The Committee discussed the purpose of police on campus and questioned what the frequency of use of force is at UCR. Members discussed the police's use of firearms on campus and whether it is appropriate for officers to carry them. Members recommended that a study be conducted of other University Systems who reduced police forces for best practices. Lastly, members noted concern for Black students and students of color who are more likely to be affected by police, which in turn negatively affects their educational experience.

The Chair informed the Committee that the internal review of the Peace and Conflict Studies minor that was scheduled for the 21-22 AY has been cancelled as the program notified CEP of their intent to discontinue the minor. The Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science Minor was notified that CEP will conduct an internal review of the program in the 21-22 AY to replace the cancelled review.

The Committee reviewed and voted to support the request from Southeast Asian Studies to postpone the internal review of their minor to the 22-23 AY. The Urban Studies minor will be notified that CEP will conduct an internal review of the program in the 21-22 AY to replace the postponed review.

The Committee reviewed the Neuroscience undergraduate program's follow up response to the Action Implementation plan from the review of their program. The Committee noted that while the program is taking the recommendations seriously, the effect of COVID-19 on instruction and the budget crisis have made it difficult for the program to address many of the findings and recommendations. The Committee voted to close the review with a request for a follow up report from the program in January 2022 documenting any additional progress they make on addressing the report's findings and recommendations.

The Committee reviewed and voted to approve the Preliminary Findings and Recommendations report from the internal review of the International Relations minor.

The Committee reviewed the Campus Safety Taskforce Report and Recommendations and did not support the report as it does not provide a clear roadmap for a path forward. The Committee agreed that there are many deficiencies in law enforcement at UCR, which are especially heightened for Black students and students of color and other vulnerable groups, which negatively impacts the quality of education at UCR. The Committee noted concern that the report does not discuss an alternative to the current practices of law enforcement, nor does it include a discussion of steps to improve current policies and practices. Several members noted there was no mention of the possibility that police could be mandated to not carry firearms or other lethal weapons during routine operations similar to practices followed by police in the UK and other countries. The Committee noted concern that the report contains several recommendations of difficult or problematic implementation such as the opening of UCPD staff to "public review". The Committee recommended that the report be updated to include clear benchmarks for success and an action plan that would improve campus climate with stronger evidence-based strategies to form a framework to work from. The Committee noted concern that the report only tasked specific colleges and schools with roles to review law enforcement policy on campus. The Committee recommended that in the spirit of shared governance, all faculty have an equal role in reviewing law enforcement policies. The Chair will summarize the Committee's feedback and recommendation in a draft response to the Senate Chair that will be sent to the Committee for final review by email.

The Committee reviewed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Evaluation of Faculty Teaching's Final Report and noted concern that the report does not provide a plan to implement the report's recommendations. The Committee recommended that questions be added to evaluations that measure students' preparedness for the course and understanding of course materials and documentation of academic integrity in the course. The Chair will summarize the Committee's feedback and recommendations in a memo to the Senate Chair.

The Committee reviewed the proposed change to the Minor in Medical and Health Humanities Studies curriculum and the CHASS Program Change Subcommittee's concern that some of the required courses can only be taken by identified faculty. The Committee voted to support the

proposed change to the curriculum as it was noted that the courses in question's topics vary by instructor.

The Chair updated the Committee on the undergraduate program changes received for review by CEP for consideration of approval for the 21-22 AY catalog. The Chair informed the Committee that a larger than normal number of changes from CHASS were received. The Chair will ask that members from outside of CHASS assist with the review of the program changes of CHASS to manage the workload.

The Committee reviewed the proposed change to the BS+MS in Electrical Engineering program change and the Professional Schools Program Change Subcommittee's concern that the change does not specify if a student who took the undergraduate version of the course that has a graduate equivalent course will be able to receive credit for the course if they transfer to the BS+MS program. The Committee recommended that the program be asked to provide clarity on this issue.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:05PM.

Approved: April 2, 2021

Prepared by: Beth Beatty