

**Academic Affairs Committee
Minutes
Monday, October 27, 2014
2-3 p.m.
UL 2115J**

Members in attendance: Ben Boukai, Peggy Daniels Lee, Joe Defazio, Benjamin Keele, Mary Beth Myers, John C. Watson, Jeffrey X. Watt

1. Charge and membership [see *fc_committees_1415.docx* and *AAC Membership 2014-15.xlsx*]
2. Future meeting dates for Fall 2014 (all Mondays):
 - Nov. 3, 2-3 p.m., UL 2115J *Note that this meeting is being moved to Nov. 10, same day, time, and room.*
 - Nov. 17, 2-3 p.m., SL 306C (Biology Conference Room)
 - Dec. 1, 2-3 p.m., UL 2115J
3. Action items for 2014-15 [see the Academic Affairs section in *Report on Council Actions 2014-15.docx*, not listed in that document is an additional item - IUPUI policy on International Teaching Assistants]

JCW noted that the APPC passed a "No Attendance Without Enrollment" policy that incorporated wording suggested by AAC member Max Huffman. JW and BB suggested that the AAC should endorse the APPC policy or perhaps have it passed by the IFC so that it becomes a Faculty policy as well. JCW will discuss these options with Becky Porter and report back to the AAC.

JCW asked the members if anyone could speak to the relevancy of the "Calculation of GPAs" item on the Action Item list since it had been on the AAC's list for so long and was deferred because of the Student Services initiative. MBM commented that the Student Services initiative is well advanced now and went on to explain the relevant GPA question. IU calculates 2 GPAs for each student: the classic one utilizing all courses and credit hours and a "program GPA." The "Program GPA" is NOT a major GPA...it is not a calculation of courses required for the major. The "Program GPA" is calculated based on which policies are in place at the academic unit with respect to Grade Forgiveness and Repeated Course Rules. The method of computing the program GPA may vary considerably from academic unit to academic unit based on the policies in place at each unit. PDL noted that program GPA plays a role in awarding internal scholarships in her unit. Considerable discussion ensued about how the program GPA is calculated and what's its usefulness might be. It was decided that AAC should examine the program-specific GPA with an eye toward more campus "standardization" of the grade forgiveness and repeat rule policies that currently drive the calculation.

JCW next asked about Grade Forgiveness policy since it also has been on the Action Item list for some time. Currently, the Grade Forgiveness policy allows each academic unit to determine if they wish to recognize and apply the policy. PDL noted that differing opinions existed about grade forgiveness. Considerable discussion ensued, but

there seemed to be a general agreement that the AAC should consider proposing a policy that would apply to all academic units.

JCW asked MBM to comment on her request that the AAC examine creating a forgiveness policy for students who enroll in classes, obtain all FNNs in a semester, and don't pay tuition (this was not on the list from the IFC-EC). Given that the student clearly never attended any classes, the request is for a possible policy that would allow the Registrar and the Bursar to make record and billing adjustments to clear the balance (one time only). BB asked if this was really a faculty issue, and there was general agreement it was not. MBM suggested that the AAC might communicate its general agreement with the concept of this proposed policy to the APPC with encouragement to the APPC to establish and approve an administrative policy.

There was insufficient time to discuss the remainder of the Action Item list.

4. Last date to withdraw (Jeff Watt)

JCW asked JXW to present his analysis of the Last Date to Withdraw. He presented information indicating that the date appears to have shifted later into the semester over time. He noted COAS at IUB has a policy that withdrawal with an automatic W is available through the 8th week of the semester. He also said that peer schools have such a withdrawal date but set it earlier in the semester relative to final exams, and provided a chart with the data from several peer schools. JXW also noted that certain deans are more lenient in assigning a W rather than an F. Considerable discussion ensued. BB offered the opinion that the date might be set at 50 days after the start of classes minus breaks. Considerable discussion ensued. MBM established that there continues to be confusion about the "Automatic W" date and the "Last Date to Withdraw." The dates referenced in the chart presented by JXW likely reflected the "Automatic W" date which, for all of IU, is October 26 this Fall (which falls right in the middle of the range of dates provided by JXW). This date has been standardized in the 9th week of classes as part of the Common Calendar initiative.

JCW noted the existence of an IU Policy (ACA-69) that mentions only 3 withdrawal periods: withdrawal during drop and add, withdrawal during automatic withdrawal period, and withdrawal after automatic withdrawal period (this is when a Dean's signature is required, the grade is either a W or an F if the student is failing). He also noted that the end of automatic withdrawal (Automatic W date) is now part of the common calendar and currently set in the 9th week of classes. There seemed to be general agreement to alter the current IUPUI process to having the advisor, instructor (who assigns the grade), and dean all sign withdrawal requests after the end of automatic withdrawal. It may be that the current system with advisor and instructor permissions after automatic W ends was put into place to reduce the involvement of the deans' offices in the process. Further information about the process at IUB would be relevant.

MEETING AJOURNED

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL CARRY OVER TO THE NEXT MEETING

5. Discussion of UFC policy on transfer of credit from 2-year institutions completed at the 100- and 200-level [see *Porter e-mail 4-16-14.pdf* and *transfer-credit-two-year-institutions*]
6. Discussion of potential policy on credit hour overlap between minor to major or major to second major [see *Porter e-mail 5-14-14.pdf*]