

# **ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE**

**2017-2018 Summary Report**

**Submitted by Deeanna Button, Chair**

**May 16, 2018**

**Committee Members:** Deeanna Button (Chair), Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen (Vice-Chair), Chris DiSanto, Leo Previti, Ron Tinsley, Geoffrey Gust, Carla Enriquez, Michael Hayes, Carole-Rae Reed, Eric Jeitner, Kelly Keenan, Jeni Forestal, Michelle McDonald (Ex Officio), Amy Beth Glass (Ex Officio), Peter Straub (Ex Officio)

**Meeting Dates:** September 12, 2017, October 10, 2017, November 7, 2017, March 6, 2018, April 5, 2018, Online discussion May 10-16, 2018

**Charges:**

1. Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodations Procedure
2. Repeat Course Practice
3. Academic Honesty Procedure
4. Undergraduate Transfer Credit
5. Course Audit Policy and Procedure (online discussion only)

**Charge #1: Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodation**

2. Changing the practice may create a greater demand for seats in classes. Repeat students potentially limit seats for new students and place additional demand on faculty and

election cycle and term length is the same as those of all other senate committees. The Provost's Office will send reminders to school Deans at the next election.

3. **The Board should be comprised of tenured associate professors and up:** This may make scheduling even more difficult.
4. To address the fourth and primary concern, **the second offense sanction gap**, a sub-committee was formed.
  - a. The sub-committee was comprised of **Deeanna Button**, APC Chair and Representative, **Marcia Fielder**, Academic Honesty Appeals Board, **Jennifer Forestal**, APC and SFT Representative, **AmyBeth Glass**, APC and Graduate Studies Representative, **Michael Hayse**, APC Representative, **Michelle McDonald**, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and **John Smith**, Assistant to the Provost.
  - b. The sub-committee reviewed Stockton's current **Academic Honesty Procedure**, academic **dishonesty reports and appeals data** from the Provost's Office, Academic Honesty **Procedures from other institutions**, primarily from Penn State University, **disciplinary sanctions** in Stockton's Student Code of Conduct, and the **library's educational resources** on academic honesty, plagiarism, and citations
  - c. The sub-committee presented **four recommendations** to the full APC. The full APC generally supported the recommendations, and **added fifth recommendation**, but did not develop or vote on any formal recommendations. In Fall 2018, the APC will create sub-committees to move forward in developing each recommendat20 (i) -220 (i) -220 (i) -220

committee, this recommendation was discussed at length. Among faculty present at the meeting, there is general agreement that the gap for the second offense needs to be addressed. Faculty agree that there should be a mandatory disciplinary sanction, although the Provost's office should determine which disciplinary sanction is most appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

It was agreed that the next step is to draft language to add to the Procedure.

Points to consider in next steps: a) Will specific disciplinary actions be noted in the procedure? b) Will disciplinary actions come only from the code of conduct, or should other ideas and actions be considered (some sort of service to the University, additional academic honesty training, etc.)? c) Suggestions on organizing/editing the procedure.

- iv. The full APC added a **need for preventative education**. Incoming students should do a short training on academic dishonesty and continuing students should be required to undergo annual academic dishonesty training.
- v. The APC did not discuss the final sub-committee recommendation, which includes an **update to library website** to include more readily accessible resources on plagiarism and citation guides. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Charge #4: Undergraduate Transfer Credit**

Enrollment management is attempting to g4 ( -2 ( 589.9 4 ( ) -10(C) 22 (n) -4 (d) ] (nt) 4 (g4r) -7 (e) ]TJ ET Q 0.

**Committee Vote:**

**Accept the proposed Undergraduate Transfer Credit Procedure modifications with the suggested amendments.**

Motion made by Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen; seconded by Geoffrey Gust

In favor = 11, Opposed = 0, Abstained = 0

**Charge #5: Course Audit Policy and Procedure**

Tom Grites from the Provost Office submitted a request to reduce the course audit rate. The request came after the end of the academic term, and thus no other APC meetings were scheduled. The APC discussed the request virtually, but did not take a formal vote on the recommendation. The following points were raised in discussion:

1. There is general support for reducing the cost of course audit requests.
2. The drop in rates is substantial, and that may increase requests for audits considerably. Consideration about when audits are permitted (over enrolled courses, open seats only,

### **APC Request for Consideration Form**

To expedite the review process, the APC created a request for consideration form that asks users to provide contextual information about requests, the rationale for the modification/addition, and any intended and unintended consequences that may result. The APC began use of the form immediately after committee approval: <https://goo.gl/forms/VcTpyDDXNaKOzPyE3>

### **Committee Concerns**

#### **Attendance**

The APC is comprised of 17 members, 12 of which are faculty. The other 30% of the committee are non-voting ex officio and student members. Often times, faculty attendance is poor. The lack of faculty attendance compromises the collective voice. As Stockton continues to grow and