

**The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**  
**Annual Report of the Educational Policy Committee to Faculty Council**  
**April 16, 2021**

**Membership:**

Voting Members: Melinda Beck, Chair (Nutrition, Public Health, 2021); Angela Bardeen (University Library, Libraries 2021), Adrienne Erickcek (Physics and Astronomy, Arts and Sciences, 2022), Sarah Fuller (Public Policy, Arts and Sciences, 2023), Carmen Hsu (Romance Studies, Arts and Sciences, 2023), Patia McGrath (Business, Business, 2021), Rachel Penton (Psychology and Neuroscience, Arts and Sciences, 2022), Nadia Yaqub, Asian Studies, Arts and Sciences, 2022), Meg Zomorodi (Nursing, Nursing, 2023). Non-Voting consultants: Katie Cartmell (Associate Director, Office of Student Retention), Sam Johnson (Undergraduate student, appointed 2020), Michelle Hoffner (Graduate Student, Appointed 2020), Abigail Panter (Senior Associate Dean, Arts and Sciences), Christy Samford (Deputy Registrar, Office of the University Registrar), Lauren DiGrazia (Assistant Provost, University Registrar).

**Committee Charge:**

The committee is concerned with those matters of educational policy and its implementation as to which the Faculty Council possess legislative powers by delegation from the General Faculty under Article II of the Code. The committee's function is advisory to the Faculty Council and the University Registrar.

**Summary of activities during the 2020-2021 academic year:**

1. From last year, a subcommittee of the EPC was formed concerning University Approved Absences (UAA). The subcommittee identified criteria that would automatically result in an UAA. With feedback from the full committee and the Dean of Students Office, the policies were implemented, and communication went out to faculty either via departmental meetings and/or emails. Currently, the EPC subcommittee is working to improve communications around the policy. Several issues have arisen with faculty not always honoring the approvals as well as faculty not understanding that they can approve absences beyond the UAA. The subcommittee will continue to provide information to Chairs/DUS/Deans/Faculty Council.
2. EPC approved removing Dean's List designation from Spring 2021, due to COVID-19 pandemic to alleviate student pressure. Dean's List had previously been suspended for Fall 2020. A note is added to the transcript noting that Dean's List was temporarily suspended.
3. The EPC received regular briefings from the General Education Implementation team. The committee was kept abreast of syllabi reviews for the new curriculum, Triple I course development and implementation. The new Curriculum applies to undergraduates starting in Fall of 2022 and thereafter. A general education oversight subcommittee was formed from the EPC members. Nick Siedentop (Office of Undergraduate Curricula) provides an Action Stakeholders Report each month to keep the EPC up to date on General Education Implementation progress.

4. EPC requested W available on class rosters for faculty to know in real time that students have withdrawn from the course. The Registrar introduced this change.
5. A new priority registration group was approved for spring 2021 international students. This was to allow these students to select asynchronous courses and those courses being held a time that fits their time zone. This is only temporary—it is not a permanent early registration population.
6. The academic policy exceptions instituted for fall 2020 were approved for spring 2021, due to COVID-19, with the exception that students in the spring can make PS/F decisions through the 3<sup>rd</sup> week after final exams.
7. EPC put forth Resolution 2020-6. On Amending the Guidelines for Course Syllabi, which was approved and adopted by Faculty Council. This amendment requires syllabi to include information on ARS, CAPS and Title IX resources.
8. EPC is discussing policies regarding applications to undergraduate programs that have a separate admissions process, usually in the spring of the sophomore year. Currently, a subcommittee has been formed to understand the application processes of each program and to determine if best practices are being utilized by admissions committees.
9. EPC is continuing a discussion around policy changes for academic forgiveness.
10. Nick Siedentop and Chole Russell proposed a revision of the grade requirement policy for majors and minors. The proposed policy would require a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in coursework taken at UNC-Chapel Hill in the major and minor core. This would replace the current policy of students required to earn 18 hours or C or better in Core courses and if they bring in transfer credit, must earn a C or better in 75% of core courses taken at UNC. The proposal was approved on 3/12/2021 by the Administrative Boards of the General College and College of Arts and Sciences. It was also supported by University Registrar, the Academic Advising Program, and the College Leadership team. After discussion, the EPC approved the proposal with a vote of 9 to approve and 1 vote not to approve.
11. Meg Zomorodi and Sarah Liebkemann presented a proposal to EPC for an Interprofessional Education Scholar recognition on transcripts for going “above and beyond” interprofessional education activities. The proposal contained very specific benchmarks for achieving recognition as an Interprofessional Education Scholar and a robust tracking system. The EPC voted 9 in favor, 0 no, and 1 abstain (Meg Zomorodi abstained from voting due to conflict) of the proposal.