

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Annual Report of the Educational Policy Committee to Faculty Council
April 2024

Educational Policy Committee, 2023-2024

Members:

- Abayomi, Oluremi (Statistics and Operations Research) At-Large, term expires 2026
- Bardeen, Angela (University Libraries/Libraries), At-Large, term expires 2024
- Cramer, Lorraine (Microbiology & Immunology/Medicine), At-Large, term expires 2024. *Committee Chair*
- Else-Quest, Nicole (Women and Gender Studies) At-Large, term expires 2025
- Gualtieri-Reed, Elizabeth (English and Comparative Literature) At-Large, term expires 2025
- Hsu, Carmen (Romance Studies), At-Large, term expires 2023
- Ott, Laura (Biology) At-Large, term expires 2026
- Sawyer, Keith (Education), At-Large, term expires 2024
- Weinberg-Wolf, Jennifer (Physics and Astronomy) At-Large, term expires 2025
- Gast, Owen Garrett, Undergraduate representative 2024
- Olivier, Ndabo Kalunga, Graduate student 2024

Non-Voting Members (Consultants):

- DiGrazia, Lauren (Assistant Provost & University Registrar/Office of the University Registrar)
- Panter, Abigail (Senior Associate Dean/Arts & Sciences)
- Russell, Chloë (Associate Dean & Director/Academic Advising)
- Samford, Christy (Deputy Director/Office of the University Registrar)
- Sientop, Nicholas (Curriculum Director/Office of Undergraduate Curricula)

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.

2023-2024 Meetings: September 6, October 16, November 13, December 14, January 23, February 20, March 19, and April 26.

Summary of activities during the 2023-2024 academic year:

1. Based on recommendations from an EPC subcommittee and the Dean of Students, a University-wide Taskforce was created to review the entire Class Attendance policy on University Approved Absences (Resolution 2018-1). Stakeholders from across campus were interviewed, and an updated version of the policy (Resolution 2024-6) was approved by the EPC. This update included clarification of UAA language, added short-term military leave, and updated make-up coursework requirements. The EPC has submitted this updated policy to the Faculty Council for review.
2. The EPC is continuing its investigation into the double-application process. These are programs that require a separate admissions process for current undergraduate students enrolled at UNC-CH (such as the business and nursing schools, and computer science). The application processes for these programs can include a range of additional requirements (letter of recommendation, essays, additional fees, etc.). The Taskforce is continuing to gather and review data regarding application and admission practices currently in place by various schools. This is to review if there are impacts on equity of access, as well as to assess the additional burdens these requirements place on faculty and students. The Taskforce is also investigating if best practices can be identified or streamlining of the application process can occur.
3. The EPC charge was updated to reflect editing to include clarification of the committee's delegated authority to approve and implement policy legislation that are clarified, technical and not substantive in nature and its status as advisory to the Faculty Council. This updated policy was sent to the Committee on University Government for review and approval.
4. EPC members have been included in a Wellness Days Taskforce. This taskforce was created to review the functions/purposes and need of wellbeing days.
5. The EPC has been reviewing the Course Repeat and Grade Replacement Policy. UNC System peers and many other universities have a grade replacement allowing students to replace grades in up to 16 credit hours. UNC-CH is currently the only UNC System institution without such a policy. A draft of the Grade Replacement Policy modeled after those of UNC System peers was presented to the EPC for discussion.
6. EPC approved an update to Update to [UPM #13](#) Authorized Degrees, Major Fields in each Degree, and Assigned Code Numbers: An introductory statement was added, and additional information was added to the section on "Conferral of Degrees" and "Awarding of Degrees".
 - a. Students will have a 60-day timeframe to complete work after graduation date in order to graduate in that semester.
 - b. One year time limit to complete work for conferral of degree (had been stated in catalog, but not in UPM previously).
 - c. A second major or minor can be awarded within one year after the conferral of degree if students completed all the requirements prior to graduation.

7. EPC approved an update to [UPM #14](#) Administration of Domestic and International Study Abroad Exchange Programs: Item 6
 - a. Study Abroad students returning to UNC Chapel Hill. “SI” would be listed on transcript (“Study Abroad Incomplete”) if students did not get study abroad transcripts in by end of semester.
 - b. This would only be in cases where lack of transcripts were not due to administrative issues but because a student has chosen not to submit transcripts.
8. EPC approved updates to [UPM #24](#) - The Grading System. This update includes the addition of the LP grade, revised language for the PS grade, removal of temporary COVID accommodation references, correction of previous updates to the Pharmacy and MD grading systems, addition of Study Abroad grades from UPM 14, and other updates/edits to outdated references.
9. EPC provided review of proposal for the Adams School of Dentistry (ASOD): update for Graduation with Distinction: The EPC declined the ASOD proposal to allow honors on degrees for ASOD students. It was recommended that students receive a transcript note instead and advised that the criteria for receiving honors should be clearly spelled out in the ASOD catalog.

Report Respectfully Submitted by Committee Chair Lorraine Cramer, April 26, 2024