

Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Minutes
October 7, 2010

Present: V. Bielat, K. Browne, K. Feathers R. Hoogland, J. Moseley, A. Saperstein, A. Vlasopolos, E. Young, H. Shapiro, S. Baskin.

Absent with notice: T. Austin, B. Bosch, A. Furtado, J. Ku.

Absent: A. Retish

The major focus of this meeting was discussion of the matter related to student publication of research forwarded from the Policy Committee. One issue addressed was whether or not we need a policy as this might be an unusual occurrence. If that is the case, there is no reason to develop any policy.

There was also substantial discussion about the feasibility of adopting a policy that would be applicable to all fields. Some felt that any policy broad enough for general application would not be useful and others felt that adopting a policy only for certain fields would be problematic because of the difficulty defining those fields. One suggestion was that departments write their own policies, but that raised the problem of who would review those policies to insure that they do not violate overall University policies. It was also noted that this would leave departments without support in creating such policies. Therefore, another suggestion was that the Graduate School should develop either the policy or perhaps guidelines for departments. The student representative, S. Baskin, reminded us that we need to consider the student's perspective both in relation to this particular issue but also in developing any policy. The policy must protect students as well as faculty.

The idea of some sort of contract that would identify expected behavior was considered, it was noted that morals and values cannot be regulated.

Overall the committee leaned toward recommending that the Graduate School formulate a document or a policy to address research and publication involving students and faculty.

Two questions were left to explore:

- Is this a rare occurrence?
- What have other colleges/universities done?

K. Feathers will explore this first question via a list serve for a professional organization. E. Young will check some other universities to see if they have any policies related to this matter. V. Bielat will see what she can find out on this topic. Other members are also encouraged to explore either of these questions and bring the information back to the Committee. Information will be shared on the CIC listserv and at the next meeting.