

## **Curriculum and Instruction Committee of the Academic Senate Year-End Report, 2023-2024**

**Medical withdrawal policy.** The Student Affairs Committee asked CIC to weigh in about their suggested changes for Board of Governors' policy about medical withdrawal. These changes were eventually approved by the Board of Governors.

**Development of Senate priorities.** CIC conducted a session at Plenary to elicit senators' suggestions for the Academic Senate's agenda for the year, in order to expand opportunities for senators' active participation in meetings and their contribution to the development of agenda items.

**Grade change appeals.** CIC heard that grades have been changed by administrators without instructors' input. CIC suggests strong guidance to administrators that the relevant instructors be included when a student appeals a grade. Representatives of CIC met with Associate Dean Lori Pile, who was amenable to this suggestion.

**Revision of syllabus templates.** Following CIC's work on this issue in 2022-2023, CIC worked with FAC to revise syllabus templates. Beginning in January 2023, a separate document with university policy is placed in Canvas courses, so that the instructors' syllabuses no longer need to include university policy and can instead be focused strictly on instructional issues.

**"Wayne Experience."** CIC explored in multiple ways what belongs in a newly conceived "Wayne Experience" when this general education requirement is reinstated in the future. CIC held a number of brainstorming sessions on this topic, gathered syllabuses for this kind of course from within WSU and from other institutions, convened an ad hoc subcommittee to generate suggestions, and held a focus group session for Academic Senate members. There are questions of content for this course, intended audience, staffing, budget, and scheduling. The General Education Oversight Committee will be responsible Wayne Experience, and we held a joint meeting with CIC and the leadership of CIC to pass along what we have learned.

**Students' probationary status.** CIC heard about concerns that the language and communication with students around probationary status is problematic. This is a topic that should be revisited in the coming year.

**D-F-W grade dashboards.** Associate Provost Darin Ellis shared the dashboards that show DFW rates by course, department, etc. The interpretation and use of these dashboards is under development. This is a topic that should be revisited in the coming year.

**Course waitlists.** CIC heard from faculty that waitlists for courses disappear the first day of classes, so that instructors cannot reach out to interested students when spots

open up in a course, etc. Workarounds were discussed—for example, departments or individual instructors download waitlists in advance of the first day of classes, so they can have this information if they know to do so. This topic was raised in a meeting with the registrar, Kurt Kruschinska, the AVP for Instructional Technology, Rob Thompson, and the Senior Manager of Instructional Technology, Curtis Kratt, who promised to look into alternatives.

**Suggested edits to Student Code of Conduct with respect to AI.** The Senate's ad hoc Subcommittee on AI has developed suggested changes to the Student Code of Conduct naming cheating concerns with AI. CIC made additional suggestions to the proposed changes and passed along the text to the Policy Committee.

**Instructors' Canvas access.** CIC heard from faculty that new policy precludes instructors from accessing the gradebook features of courses once they are done, and raised concerns about this new policy with the registrar, Kurt Kruschinska, the AVP for Instructional Technology, Rob Thompson, and the Senior Manager of Instructional Technology, Curtis Kratt. Kurt, Rob and Curtis attended a CIC meeting and shared that the policy will no longer be in effect, and that faculty will have access to their courses, including the gradebook features, for one year. It was extremely productive to have time to discuss instructional issues with Kurt, Rob and Curtis, and CIC will meet with them at least once a year.

**Suggested CIC agenda items for 2024-2025 (in formation):**

- Hold annual meeting with registrar and leads in IT
- Intellectual property rights
- More on cheating, etc.
- IT best practices from around WSU and beyond
- SET and teaching evaluations more broadly
- Onboarding for members of Senate committees

**Thank you** to the CIC members, 2023-2024!

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