

2019-2020 Final Report
GW Faculty Senate Committee on Educational Policy and Technology
Submitted April 1st, 2020

The Committee on Educational Policy and Technology met four times in Fall 2019, on September 23, October 19, November 6, and December 6. The committee has met three times in Spring 2020, on January 19, February 14, and March 13. The committee will also meet on April 3.

The first meeting on September 23 focused on a discussion around which topics the committee would like to address for the 2019-2020 academic year. A list of 10 potential topics was generated and the committee then gave feedback on prioritization. The prioritized list of the top 5 topics for the year is as follows

Topic 1

1. 20 percent reduction of undergraduates and 30 percent STEM transition –
1a. Pilot Plan Regarding Foreign Languages Proficiency Testing

Topic 2

2. Expanding Freshman Forgiveness

Topic 3

3. Student Experience Transition and Effectiveness of Initiatives

Topic 4

4. Code of Academic Integrity

Topic 5

5. Culture/ diversity in student support.

Topic 1 was addressed in the second meeting of the semester on October 19th. Interim Dean of Admissions and Provost Forrest Maltzman presented the committee with information regarding the admissions modeling that was conducted to examine potential ways to build an incoming class with a smaller number of students and a larger number of STEM majors. If we are dealing with a similar applicant pool, that priorities will need to be identified to build a class. Factors that will need to be considered are diversity, academic strength, and financial need.

The meeting held on November 6th focused on addressing the petition that was passed by the Faculty Assembly in October. At this meeting the committee generated and unanimously passed a resolution to the faculty senate to be discussed in the December Faculty Senate Meeting.

The December 6th meeting focused on Topic 4, academic integrity and will also have an update from the Strategic Planning Committee on High Quality Undergraduate Education as well as further discussion of the petition passed by the Faculty Assembly. A subcommittee was formed to work with the Office of Academic Integrity to update the university policy.

The January 10th meeting focused on two primary issues: a discussion GW's academic continuity policy and resources and the Ed Policy and Technology response to the Faculty Petition.

The February 14th meeting focused on a proposal to expand academic forgiveness policy at GW presented by our SA representatives and a discussion of strategic planning metrics that we would like to track going forward.

The March 13th meeting focused on Discussion of Transition to Office 365 from Gmail for email and calendars led by Mark Diaz and GW IT and also had a Vote on proposed resolution regarding expansion of academic forgiveness. The resolution passed by a 14-1 vote and was sent on the the Faculty Senate for Consideration. The final issue discussed was the committee comments on strategic plan drafts.

The April 3rd meeting will focus primarily on a discussion of the response of the university to the Covid-19 pandemic. The discussion will be led by Terry Murphy and will discuss the decisions that have already been made and look proactively on issues that may come up as the situation unfolds that the committee might have feedback on.

The suggested action items for next year are as follows:

- 1) Monitoring of academic quality, diversity, and financial profiles of the incoming undergraduate class.
- 2) Discussion of continued efforts to better prepare the university for periods of disruption that may require continued academic continuity functions.
- 3) Continued work to update the Academic Integrity Policy.

Prepared by Jason M Zara on 4/1/2020.