

**Committee of Committees
Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2024, 12:00-1:00 pm
Dining Hall Test Kitchen**

Attendees: Dominique Vuvan (FEC chair); Jeremy Day-O'Connell (FEC member); Ting Li (FEC member); Oscar Perez Hernandez (FEC member); Sarah DiPasquale (ATC member, ATC chair 2024-25); A.J. Schneller (CAFR chair); John Cosgrove (AC chair); Masako Inamoto (CIGU co-chair); Smriti Tiwari (IPPC co-chair); Nick Junkerman (CEPP chair); Bernie Possidente (PC chair); Maggie Greaves (CC member, CC chair 2024-25); Flagg Taylor (PHF chair and FDC member)

I. Welcome

The Chair of FEC welcomed attendees.

II. FEC Recommendations Following Operations Audits

The Chair of FEC thanked committee representatives for their participation in the audit and went over recommendations for all committees: review their operating code regularly, document information regarding non-meeting workloads, establish formal procedures for chair selection, update their website and other materials regularly, and, for those committees with co-chairs, describe the responsibilities of each co-chair in operating code.

III. Committee Reports

The Chair of FEC reminded attendees that the purpose of the Committee of Committees is “to assess the interactions among member committees and between them and the Administration, and to discuss ongoing issues and any problems in committee operations.” Then each representative proceeded to provide their report.

Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights (CAFR)

- Incoming chair: Bill Lewis
- Continued working with CEPP on recording policy.
- Worked with Kim Frederick (Working Group on Inclusive and Accessible Teaching and Learning) on identifying issues that come up in the work of the committee that could potentially be avoided by changes to the Faculty Handbook.
- Processed informal inquiries and formal inquiries that involved recommendations to the president;
- Extremely busy with confidential work.
- Contacted IT to remove an old version of their operating code website with old version of operating code
- Will continue to update the Operating Code as needed.

Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP)

- Continuing chair: Nick Junkerman
- In consultation with CC, the committee worked on changes to the two-course option to satisfy the Bridge Experience requirement. This possibility was previously part of CEPP's implementation procedure for the new requirement.
- Supported the transition of the Environmental Studies and Sciences (ESS) program to become a department. The motion was voted on and approved by the faculty.
- Worked on recording policy, in consultation with other committees and the administration.

Curriculum Committee (CC)

- Incoming chair: Maggie Greaves.
- Reviewed 44 course proposals in the fall, 99 course proposals in the spring (143 total).
- Conducted review of courses with 4th flexible credit hour. The chair of CC met with some Chairs and Program Directors (CPDs) to discuss concerns that emerged.
- Worked with Office of the Registrar staff on implementing the new system for course proposals (Courseleaf).
- Worked with the Office of Off-Campus Study & Exchanges (OCSE) to approve travel seminars.
- Communicated with the director of Bridge Experience about eliminating the option of two courses to satisfy the requirement.
- Made changes to their Operating Code in response to FEC's audit.
- Worked with the Director of FYE in the approval of new Scribner seminars.
- Next year, the committee will work to provide data for the Middle States's reaffirmation process.
- Reviewed and updated the list of courses that fulfill the Global Perspectives requirement of the General Curriculum.

Clarification question from one attendee: Will there be a similar review of all requirements?

Answer: Some requirements have directors who constantly review the lists of courses that fulfill those requirements. At this time, there is no anticipated CC review process for other requirements.

Committee on Intercultural Global Understanding (CIGU)

- Continuing co-chair: Masako Inamoto.
- The committee will provide a more detailed report after the final meeting of this academic year, scheduled for May 10th.
- Was involved in conducting on-campus interviews for the finalist candidates for the Wyckoff Center Director position.
- Was invited to participate in on-campus interviews of the finalist candidates for the Director of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion.
- Met with the Registrar and had a discussion on the selection of a professional voice actor for reading graduates' names at this year's, and for future, Commencements.

- Next year, the committee is likely to discuss a procurement philosophy with relevant campus leaders.
- Good working relationships within the committee and with the administration.

Promotions Committee (PC)

- No incoming chair identified. Erica Wojcik will be interim chair for the summer.
- Business as usual.
- There were many promotion cases; the review process worked well.
- Conducted Committee of the Whole with the support of FEC.
- Worked closely with ATC on common procedural issues (e.g., letters from administrators and those on sabbatical).
- Good working relations within the committee and the administration.
- Reported delays in the consultation process with DOF to name Endowed Chairs. The committee had minimal time to review recommendations and decisions were made after the deadline. The committee is confident that the input was meaningful and hopes the process will improve in the near future.
- There is a new calendar for promotions this year. There are two upcoming information sessions: one for CPDs and candidates (May 8) and one for newly tenured faculty in the fall.

Periclean Honors Forum Council (PHF)

- Incoming director: Joseph Cermatori
- The minimum GPA requirement to participate in the PHF was changed from 3.5 to 3.65. This change was already in place this year for the first time.

Clarification question from one attendee: Is the change a response to grade inflation?

Answer: Yes.

Faculty Development Committee (FDC)

- Incoming chair: Tim Wientzen
- FDC is in charge of giving three faculty awards: the Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship, the Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Phyllis A. Roth Faculty Distinguished Service Award. In the past, the committee awarded the Roth in the Fall, and the Moseley and Ciancio in the Spring. Due to logistical issues associated with the responsibilities of the recipient of the Ciancio Award and at the request of the Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs, next year FDC will conduct nominations and selection for the Ciancio Award in the Fall.

Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC)

- Incoming co-chair: Rodrigo Schneider
- The committee voted to choose a new faculty co-chair for the upcoming academic year.
- Felt FEC's audit was helpful.
Expressed concerns about unspoken rules on the role of faculty in the committee and the committee itself. It is important to clarify for future faculty members of the

committee that the work is often not about policy making but about how new policies will impact the community and should be communicated. The faculty co-chair has suggested changes to the operating code to offer clarification in this respect. Unsure if changes will be approved by the committee. [Addendum: these and other comments from IPPC committee members were compiled and submitted to President Conner and VP Joshua Woodfork, who have committed to discussing them with the committee members further to update/provide clarity on the operating code]

- Expressed concerns about lack of consistency and clarity in the functioning of the committee (e.g., when a measure would be voted on or not, when and how endorsement is to be provided).
- Faculty representation is strong on the committee, but issues when communicating and consulting with faculty at large due to limitations established by committee policies.

The chair of FEC asked attendees for advice on these issues.

- Made progress on several pieces of committee work, many of which have been presented during faculty meetings: enrollment and financial outlooks that motivated changes to the Subcommittee on Budget and Finance to include more perspectives; strategic planning; capital budget requests and availability of funds (requests that amounted to \$15.5 million but only \$13 million available); new baseball facilities; single record-keeping; proposed IT security policies (under review).

Appointment and Tenure Committee (ATC)

- Incoming chair: Sarah DiPasquale
- Worked on tenure cases during the fall.
- Worked on several projects during the spring semester, including the review of their operating code, creation of ATC's 2024-2025 calendar, completion of FEC's audit, three presentations about tenure for various constituencies, and responses to various inquiries from other committees.
- Reported productive and cordial relations with PC.

Athletic Council (AC)

- Incoming chair: Daniel Peterson
- Received a visit from the President and the VP for Strategic Planning and Institutional Diversity in advance of the announcement of the new baseball facilities.
- Worked on ongoing course policies that affect student-athletes. Maintained conversations with the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Student Academic Affairs and particular departments on course requirements beyond scheduled class time that affect student-athletes.
- Responded to concerns expressed by faculty regarding students missing classes for athletic responsibilities that should not prevent them from attending class. Made progress in addressing some of these issues.
- Currently considering a Faculty Associate program that would associate faculty with each sport. The program would tighten the connection between faculty and student-athletes. It could potentially be evaluated next year.

Faculty Executive Committee (FEC)

- Continuing chair: Dominique Vuvan
- Fall: running elections, making appointments, helping constituencies staff their committees and working groups, e.g. IPPC's Subcommittee on Budget and Finance.
- Spring: governance system review
- Upcoming year: attention to accounting problem (matching governance cycle cohort sizes to committee needs), come up with a model to assign people to cohorts, help with bigger picture questions about service on campus