

IFC Academic Affairs Committee - Meeting Notes
Thursday, November 10, 2011 from 11a-1p in UL 2115J

Members Present: Linda Brothers (PETM), Janice Buelow (Nursing), Peggy Daniels (Business), Kathy Johnson (Administrative Liaison, University College), Suzann Lupton (SPEA), Mary Beth Myers (Ex-Officio, Registrar), Marquita Walker (Labor Studies), Jeff Watt (Executive Committee Liaison, Science: Mathematics), Eric Wright (Med: Pub Health) (Chair)

11:13-11:15 - Welcome and Introductions. The Chair began the meeting with an apology for being late. He also announced that his laptop was not functioning properly and would need to take minutes by hand. The Chair announced that Kathy Johnson has been formally designated as the “Administrative Liaison” to the Committee for the duration of this academic year, replacing Rick Ward, Executive Director, Center for Research and Learning.

11:15-11:30 – Continuation of the Discussion of the Draft Recommendation Regarding Administrative Withdrawal Policy. As a follow-up to the discussion of the proposed changes to the campus policy on administrative withdrawal, the Chair invited members to review the statements included in the October meeting notes. Following a robust discussion regarding process and rhetorical concerns, Mary Beth Myers volunteered to revise the existing policy to incorporate the recommended changes into a formal draft for consideration at our next meeting.

11:30-12:00 - Discussion of the Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Task Force Report. The Committee continued its deliberations from the October meeting on the future of the BGS program at IUPUI. Specifically, the Committee was asked to make a recommendation on two issues: (1) Where should the BGS program be housed after the school of Continuing Studies closes? (2) Should the degree name be changed? Members continued the discussion of the possible courses of action outlined in Associate Vice Chancellor Murhtada and Dean Johnson’s report. They also noted concerns about any of the proposed “homes” for the BGS program. Nevertheless, recognizing that a decision must be made soon, the Committee developed the following recommendation:

Recommendation Regarding the Future of the Bachelor of General Studies at IUPUI:

Indiana University should transfer the administrative responsibility and academic oversight of the Bachelor of General Studies program at IUPUI, including both the degree and all of its support programs and staff (including the Center for Adult Learners), to the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts. The decision regarding the future of name of the degree should be made by the faculty members in the unit designated as being responsible for the program.

12:00-12:55 - Review and Discussion of Existing Policies regarding Academic Probation, Dismissal, and Readmission and Development of a Single Campus-wide Standard and Terminology (See attachment). Members reviewed academic unit policies

regarding probation, dismissal, and readmission as summarized from the campus 2010-2012 bulletin by SPEA Student Service staff and members of the committee. Members discussed differences in the various policies, which only highlighted critical concerns regarding the lack of consistent language used in letters and official documents. After an extensive discussion, it was concluded that there is no need for a campus-level policy regarding academic dismissal because of the current system that requires students to seek and obtain admission to a degree-granting unit on campus to graduate with a degree on campus. Moreover, to develop a campus-wide policy would potentially put IUPUI in conflict with national requirements and standards. The Committee did, however, agree that

Recommendation Regarding Change in Practice Regarding Probation, Dismissal, and Readmission at IUPUI:

All academic units should add clarifying language to their Probation, Dismissal, and Readmission policies and communication to ensure that all students understand that decisions made regarding these matters pertain only to that academic unit and that students retain the right to seek admission and degrees from other academic units on campus even after having been dismissed from one or more schools at IUPUI.

12:55-1:00 – Issues/Topics/Information to be Discussed at Future Meetings. The Chair announced that there are several outstanding issues referred to the Committee still to be discussed, including medical withdrawal policies, standards for calculating GPAs and a policy regarding grade forgiveness. The Chair also announced that the Executive Committee has asked the Committee to review the Campus’ “dead week” policy in light of concerns expressed by the student government. Finally, several members recommended that that Committee confer with the Bloomington Faculty Council and ask them about monitoring and coordinating oversight of the new Student Services Initiative.

1:00 - Adjourned