

## ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Monday, September 3, 2021

2:30p.m | Campus Commons 2300

### MINUTES

Present: Benedict, Brewer, Couch (Bleiny), Franklin, Kraver, Puller, Schaberl (Light2 (gh.c, 0 hve)4, 0 hv(n  
Guest: Levin

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:31pm

#### Approval of the Agenda

Approved without objection.

#### Approval of the August 30, 2021 meeting minutes

Approved without objection.

#### Announcements

Chair's report (Vaughan) – No Report.

#### Reports from Councils

Graduate Council (Brewer) – No Report.

Liberal Arts Council (Wood) – At our meeting we discussed the work of Council and plans for the coming year. We reviewed LAC appeals and we also sent our bylaws to Codification for review.

Professional Education Council (Kraver) - PEC meets next week

Undergraduate Council (Franklin) - UGC meets tomorrow

Student Senate (Benavidez) – No Report.

#### Unfinished Business

- Permanent S/U Grading Policy
  - o No new updates.

#### New Business

- Language Use in Academic Contexts
  - o Kraver brought to the committee an issue that arose in the context of teaching a 19th century literature course.
    - fSome readings for the course contain racial slurs. When students are quoting from the text,

- f Related issues in other fields of study, examples from History, Music, and more
- f Many faculty members include a warning about topics that may make student uncomfortable
- f Importance of academic discourse and providing a safe space for difficult issues to be discussed critically
- f Review of articles relating to the subject
  - <https://www.chronicle.com/article/is-ever-ok-to-enunciate-a-slur-in-the-classroom>
  - <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2020/07/24/colleges-should-develop-guidelines-using-n-word-classes-opinion>
  - <https://www.universityaffairs.ca/opinion/dispatch/academic-freedom/academic-freedom-and-the-n-word/>
  - <https://www.edweek.org/leadership/should-schools-have-an-n-word-policy-uproar-over-guards-firing-forces-hard-questions/2019/10>
- f Additional resources on the Colorado State University website
  - MOU on Academic Freedom <https://president.colostate.edu/mou-academic-freedom/>
  - Student's Guide to Academic Freedom in the Classroom - <https://www.libarts.colostate.edu/classroom-climate/academic-freedom-in-the-classroom-students/>
- o Since the issue has already been addressed within current guidelines, no additional policy needs to be created concerning language use in academic contexts

Comments to the Good of the Order

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07pm.

Angela Vaughn  
Chair

Betsy Kienitz  
Recording Secretary