

University Faculty Senate
 Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee
 Wendy Gordon, Chair
 Final Committee Report
 June 2022

Committee Charge

The Committee will provide advice and guidance to the Faculty Senate on matters relating to undergraduate programs and policies throughout the University. To these ends, the Committee may review such areas as existing and proposed curricula, standards for academic degrees, undergraduate academic assessment, teaching techniques and evaluation, special undergraduate programs, articulation among units of State University of New York and the various aspects of international education and development.

Committee Members 2021-22

Wendy Gordon	Plattsburgh	gordonwm@plattsburgh.edu
Thalia MacMillan	Empire	thalia.macmillan@esc.edu
Grace Maxon-Clarke	Oswego	grace.maxon@oswego.edu
Debbie Moeckel	System Admin	deborah.moeckel@suny.edu
Janet Nepkie	Oneonta	janet.nepkie@oneonta.edu
Timothy Nicholson	Farmingdale	nicholt@farmingdale.edu
Angela Pagano	System Admin	angela.pagano@suny.edu
Carlie Phipps	Poly	phippsc@sunypoly.edu
Amanda L. Miller	FCCC Liaison	amiller@mvcc.edu
Diane Tice	Morrisville	ticedg@morrisville.edu

Committee Actions 2021-22

- 1) Resolution to express UFS support for the AAUP Joint Statement on Legislative Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism and American History Fall Plenary -- Passed
- 2) Resolution requesting an update to SUNY language regarding credit hour policy for applied/experiential learning to bring it in alignment with NYSET and Middle States Language. 2017 UFS Resolution (1976 memo) regarding credit/contact hour policy for experiential learning experiences; requesting alignment of SUNY policy language with

NYSED and Middle States language. Fall Plenary -- Passed

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ous/international/usnei/us/credits.doc>

- 3) Response to (questions about) Implementation Guide for SUNY Framework for General Education (implementation versus framework questions) - due date OCT 22 - COMMENT SUBMITTED 9/26/21
- 4) Moving forward with Survey information regarding governance and online courses, including pursuing the status of "Subject Matter Experts" and course ownership. Report plans/progress November.
 - o Survey data collected not terribly useful. Work toward a recommendation to clarify the role of Subject Matter Experts in course creation; focused on the responsibility of faculty to oversee content and quality of curriculum.
- 5) Updated Internship Guide for Covid era.

Sections of documents sent to General Counsel in January; no response yet. Subcommittee will continue refining the document to distribute at Spring Plenary. No expectation that Counsel will find items of concern.
- 6) Prepare user-friendly connection to resources for online instruction - push to teaching/pedagogical support offices.
 - o Conversation on this issue is progressing, becoming a discussion of the rapid adaptation and changes seen as a result of the pandemic. Exploring "resilient pedagogy"
 - 1 - implement regular reminders from UAPPC with links to resources (via Communications Committee)
 - 2 - Idea for Fall Plenary: "Pandemic retrospective in Curriculum and Pedagogy" either a session of Senate or theme of whole plenary.
 - do new priorities for students/Admissions/Recruitment such as flexibility of mode get suitable communication and support in classrooms?
 - what are the ramifications of flexibility (e.g. due dates, attendance, assignments, etc.)
 - 3 - FACT2/Keith may be resources for this

Discussion of 'deliverables' from this project for Fall Plenary.

 - 1) Google Doc (? or other format) prior to plenary to gather recollections, experiences; sensitivity to different experiences from different sectors, particularly Health Sciences
 - 2) Speaking/listening session(s) in small groups, discussing and sharing experiences, building connections

- 3) Looking Forward session extracting value from pandemic experience and identifying needs for the future (from administration/system)
- 7) Examine and make a recommendation regarding Credit hour/contact hour requirements in online course modality; how much online course time is equivalent to a credit hour? Also possibly consider the distribution of credit/ contact hours in courses with labs.
COMPLETED.
 - 8) Explore policy, campus-level variations, and make recommendations (white paper[s]) regarding:
 - o Calendar flexibility including part-of-term courses and/or variable start dates
 - i) Nothing prevents campuses from scheduling however they like, provided the hours requirement is met.
 - ii) COMPLETED
 - o Microcredentials - document the strengths/benefits and weaknesses of it
 - i) Work is ongoing
 - (1) Will include:
 - (a) specific points where guidance from SUNY would be useful
 - (b) SUNY Policy
 - (c) Campus practices
 - (d) Point of credentials, function in relationship to other programs (minors)
 - (e) Question of discipline appropriateness (better for tech fields, less for Humanities?)
 - o Prior Learning Assessment (What is the outcome of this assessment)
 - i) Important question is how equitable access is to these opportunities.
 - ii) Begin drafting a white paper exploring this question.
 - iii) Continuing work on this report for Fall Plenary; draft report circulated to committee
 - 9) Liberal Arts Designation: Drafting two documents: 1) guidance for campuses in what a course needs to do to be considered "Liberal Arts" under current NYSED policy; 2) Resolution requesting SUNY to request changes to NYSED policy regarding what they consider "Liberal Arts." Drafts of both documents to go through program reviewers.
Draft Documents December
 - o Need to team up with a voice or two from the Provost's office to craft preferred language for NYSED policy change

- i) <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JRZNJN764WrJh0ji6oxB4zBMoCgDpnV89sMGP4Nghu8/edit>
- o Provost's office working with NYSED on this issue. Leadership will meet April 15 and discuss movement forward. Proposed listing of kinds of courses approved for Liberal Arts approved by committee and forwarded to Provost's office.
- o Waiting for follow-up (reached out May 31).