

Committee on Academic Policy

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 26th, 2022, 3:00 pm

Meeting #20 AY2021-2022

Meeting at Fuller Labs - Beckett Conference Room and Zoom

Attendees: A. Hall-Phillips (Chair of the session; Business), B. Calli (Secretary; Robotics), B. Servatius (Math), J. deWinter (Humanities), A. C. Heinricher (Provost's Office), S. Zhou (Chemical Engineering), S. Levitan '24 (Student Representative), R. Gyurcsan '24 (Student Representative), S. Miles (Registrar)

1. The meeting started at 3.10pm
2. CAP continued a discussion on the student workload data that is collected by the office of undergraduate studies. CAP considered various oversight options for the courses that take significantly more time than what their units imply. One option is to have a policy that assigns a responsibility to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies for talking to the department heads of the corresponding courses at the end of each term or academic year. Some RBE courses, CS Software Engineering course, and ID 2050 are reported to take significantly more time than what their units imply.
 - a. Regarding ID 2050, CAP thinks that it is important to understand the impact of the "global projects for all" initiative, with a significant impact to IQPs to this course. This goal of an off-campus experience for all students has increased the workload and expected outcomes of this course. CAP decided to investigate the effect of this change by comparing the student workload data collected before the initiative was in place (e.g. AY 2014-2015) with the new one.
 - b. CAP thinks that the data should also be complemented with verbal student feedback/complaints.
 - c. CAP will start the conversation with the global school regarding ID 2050 and PQPs. Since the IQP process has changed, the practices may need to be updated.
3. CAP will evaluate the impact of the policy that removed the requirement of SAT to be admitted to WPI, and will start with identifying the criteria.
4. CAP discussed the issues regarding the e-projects 2.0 website. CAP is notified that a mechanism for allowing the students to propose their own projects is being implemented to e-projects 2.0.
5. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Berk Calli

D-term Secretary