

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY,
Minutes of Meeting #13 on February 5, 2018
SL 226**

Present: M. Humi (Chair), A. Heinricher, D. Olinger, M. Chudy, N. Rahbar, M. Tao, G. Salazar
Guests: S. Miles

- The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm by Chair Humi.
- The minutes of CAP #12 meeting on January 29, 2018 were approved subjected to specific language modification as proposed by A. Heinricher. On February 6, 2018, the final version of the minutes were approved online.

Motion to replace current of Undergraduate Learning Outcomes #8 language by a learning outcome addressing global and intercultural competency

A draft motion from the Committee on Academic Policy (CAP) and the Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee (UOAC) will be presented to the faculty for discussion at the February meeting. The item will be for discussion only, with feedback sought and with the intention to bring the motion back for a vote at a subsequent Faculty meeting.

The motion includes a revised WPI Undergraduate Learning Outcome that explicitly addresses global and intercultural competency.

Motion on grade change by students.

M. Chudy requested CAP to consider the development of a policy that in the case of a student retaking a course the grade of record should be the higher of the two earned grades whereas the lower grade should be changed to NR. The intent of this proposal is to improve student GPA.

WPI does not compute GPA on the student academic record but internal and external evaluations of student academic performance may consider grades. Therefore, students may prefer to seek to earn a NR grade in order to mitigate the negative perception of a low grade since NR grades “disappear” from the student’s record whereas letter grades (A,B, or C) do not. Currently, the instructor of record has ultimate control in assigning final grades in courses. Therefore is up to the judgement and discretion of the instructor of record to implement such change.

M. Chudy will present a second version of her proposal for future CAP discussion and consideration

Feedback from the task force on "Excused Absences"

M. Tao reported that the task force is still collecting feedback about a potential CAP faculty policy regarding "excused absences" from classes. D. Harmon will be invited to a future CAP meeting to discuss WPI sanctioned events related to varsity athletics.

Next Meeting: to be held on February 12, 2018 at 1 pm in SL 226.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Guillermo Salazar, C18 CAP Secretary