

Committee on Academic Policy  
Meeting Minutes  
15<sup>th</sup> CAP Meeting of 2018-2019  
Monday February 25 at 2PM in SL226

Chair: David Olinger (ME)

In Attendance: Jeanine Dudle (CEE), George Heineman (CS), Art Heinricher (Dean, Undergrad Studies), Mayer Humi (MA), Sarah Miles (Registrar), Jill Rulfs (BBT), Guillermo Salazar (CEE)  
Student Representatives: Ryan Candy (MA)  
Guests: Kristin Tichenor, Andrew Palumbo

1. K. Tichenor and A. Palumbo were invited to discuss admissions goals and policies. K. Tichenor noted that the recruitment cycle runs about 18 months. Target numbers and goals (e.g., discount rate, academic caliber) are developed approximately 13-14 months in advance of orientation for the incoming class. WPI works with outside firms to assist with goals, and the goals may be adjusted based on revenue needs and decisions by the Board of Trustees. The wait list can be used to alter enrollment if the projected rate of return is not as expected. Transfer students make up a small (and diminishing) proportion of enrollment. The date for accepted applicants to decide on college offers is May 1. Typically, 85% of the incoming class comes from early action applicants.

The Board of Trustees approved a 5-year plan to grow enrollment to 5,000. Based on retention rates, this equates to incoming class sizes of approximately 1,320.

Additional data on enrollments for the class that started in the fall of 2018 were presented. The data were privileged and confidential.

2. A discussion was held on admissions policies with regard to pre-calculus, based on a proposal by IMGD to waive the pre-calculus requirement for BA applicants. A. Palumbo presented data on the number of applicants who were not admitted to the IMGD BA program and the subset of those students who did not have pre-calculus. None of the IMGD BA applicants without pre-calculus were qualified for admission overall and thus pre-calculus was not the barrier to admission. It was also noted that there is a correlation between completion of pre-calculus and overall academic strength. Lastly, WPI has phased out conditional admission where students could take pre-calculus over the summer prior to fall admission.

The next CAP meeting will take place in D term with the time and date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM  
Submitted by Jeanine Dudle (secretary C term)