

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY  
Minutes, Meeting #2, 2015-2016  
September 14, 2015

Present: J. Doyle (Chair); J. Beck, L. Capogna; M. Elmes; J. Hanlan; A. Heinricher; A. Romeo, J. Rulfs

Anthony Romeo was introduced as one of the two student members of CAP for the year.

The minutes of the meeting of Aug 30 were approved with minor revisions.

CAP continued its consideration of the matter of undergraduate students working with external sponsors who wish to pay the students for their work. Prof. Beck provided a summary of where the discussion stood at the close of last academic year. CAP continues to discuss the motion in preparation for the presentation to the Faculty. Discussion focused on the provision that, after a trial period, CAP would gather data on the impact of the policy and evaluate that data. The question was raised about exactly what data would be collected, by whom, and what the standards for evaluation would be. By the time the evaluation is to be conducted, the member composition of CAP will likely have changed (almost) completely and, without specificity of standards, the definition of an "evaluation" could pose a great difficulty for members new to this matter. Questions also arose about how an appropriate evaluation would be funded.

CAP would like to see: 1) an example of a sponsor agreement and 2) the substance of an assessment plan before considering the matter further.

Professor Doyle presented a motion from the SS&PS department to drop the undergraduate major in Systems Dynamics. He indicated that there is now a graduate program in Systems Dynamics and the department lacks the faculty and resources to effectively conduct both the graduate and undergraduate programs. Moreover, the graduate program has a healthy enrollment, while the undergraduate program has gone from a good initial enrollment to no enrollment over the past few years. There are currently no undergraduates enrolled in the Systems Dynamics major. CAP voted unanimously to recommend to the Faculty that the undergraduate major in System Dynamics be discontinued.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Hanlan