

Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee (UOAC) Meeting Minutes  
Date: Friday, September 24, 2021  
Location: ZOOM meeting

Present: Kate McIntyre (Chair, H&A), Andrea Arnold (Mathematical Sciences), John Bergendahl (CEE), Jennifer deWinter (CAP), Shivaani Gopal (student representative), Art Heinricher (Provost's Office), Melissa Leahy (Office of Strategic Initiatives), Doug Petkie (Physics); and guests Mimi Sheller and Kent Rissmiller (Global School) starting at 12:00 pm

1. Chair K. McIntyre called the meeting to order at 11:32 am.
2. The minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.
3. UOAC involvement in the upcoming NECHE visit on October 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> was discussed. UOAC is scheduled to meet with NECHE representatives on Tuesday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:45 am – 12:45 pm, in the Mid-Century Room in the Campus Center. It was recommended that UOAC members attend, and prepare for the meeting by reviewing Standard Four and Standard Eight sections of the 2021 NECHE Self Study Report. The NECHE representatives will likely be looking for information on learning outcomes, an indication on how assessment is working, evidence available, department/program specific questions, graduation rates, job placement, project details, projections, and aspirations for the future.
4. Chair McIntyre updated the committee on invitations extended to guests on UOAC action items. Mimi Sheller and Kent Rissmiller had accepted invitations to attend this UOAC meeting, and were expected to arrive at noon. Additional invitations had been extended to colleagues who can help the committee with the global and intercultural competency outcome. Prof. Aaron Sakulich had agreed to attend on October 8<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that 30 minutes would be a reasonable time to allow discussions with guests.
5. There was extensive discussion about mental health and well-being on campus. What are other institutions experiencing? What past research has been done that can help WPI? Has WPI's student support network grown with respect to WPI's (increased) size?
6. Mimi Sheller and Kent Rissmiller joined the meeting at 12:00 pm to provide information on the global and intercultural competency outcome, and to provide an update on assessment efforts for IQPs completed at global project centers. This topic had come up at a recent Global School retreat, and DIGS faculty are forming a working group to address this. It was noted that there are many data sources that may contribute to this assessment (e.g. student reflection, portfolios, alumni surveys, etc.), and that it is necessary to evaluate the student experience over 4 years.
7. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectively submitted,

John Bergendahl, A term Secretary