The Educational Policy Committee (EPC) met regularly during the 2015-2016 academic year (meeting approximately once every two weeks). This report provides a summary of the business conducted by the EPC during the 2015-2016 academic year.

**2015-2016 EPC voting members**


*Todd served as the PGSG representative to EPC from August 2015-December 2015. He was unable to attend the EPC meetings beginning in January 2016 due to a schedule conflict; Dina took over as the PGSG representative from January 2016-May 2016.

**2015-2016 EPC advisors, ex-officio members, and guests**

Lesa Beals, LeeAnn Williams, Julie Cox, Candiss Vibbert, Sheila Hurt, Kelly Pistilli, Sandy Monroe.

**Documents sent to the full senate:**

- Senate Document 15-8 Transcript Notations-passed
  - This document states that disciplinary sanctions, which result in a student being involuntarily separated from the University, will be noted on a student's transcript.

**Faculty committees reporting to EPC:**

- Undergraduate Curriculum Council (UCC):
  - The UCC has invited representatives from the Purdue regional campuses to join their meetings.

- Committee for Scholastic Delinquencies and Readmissions (CSDR):
  - The CSDR continued to handle readmission applications.
Special note to the Nominating Committee: The CSDR was missing two faculty members this year; they request that these spots be filled for the upcoming academic year.

Academic Organization
A request from the Department of Computer and Information Technology to become the School of Computer and Information Technology. This was supported and passed on to the Provosts office.

A request from the Fort Wayne campus to change the name of the Department of Consumer and Family Sciences to the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management. This was supported and passed on to the Provosts office.

Academic Progress and Records
Nothing to report

Committee for Student Excellence
Nothing to report

Policy regarding application for readmission after multiple academic drops
The Office of Admissions announced in the spring of 2015 that they would only accept readmission applications from students after their first academic drop; students that were dropped two (or more) times for poor academic performance would no longer be allowed to apply for readmission consideration. Because this change in process conflicted with the policy language, EPC considered changing Purdue’s policy on multiple academic drops. After reviewing the academic performance data of students readmitted to Purdue after two or more academic drops, EPC found that a substantial number of these students ultimately earn a degree from Purdue. EPC asked Admissions to reconsider their change in practice. The Office of Admissions now, once again, allows students with multiple academic drops to apply for readmission consideration.

Assessing critical thinking skills
EPC received information regarding the use of a variety of assessment tools geared toward measuring the critical thinking skills of incoming Purdue students (e.g., the CLA+ and iSkills tests). EPC drafted a letter that outlined our concerns surrounding the current state of this testing initiative after reviewing the information provided by the Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Effectiveness (OIRAE). This letter was sent to the Board of Trustees, the Office of the President, and members of the Oversight, Research & Implementation teams from the Student Growth Taskforce on March 23, 2016.

Academic integrity
EPC formed a working group that focused on issues pertaining to academic integrity at Purdue. This group had representation from faculty, students, and the
Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Initial discussion revealed a need for funds to support exam proctoring; this need was rapidly addressed by Vice Provost Dooley. We understand that this resource has been restored.

Another point that surfaced quickly was that academic dishonestly is not notated anywhere on a student’s academic transcript. This point, along with discussions from the holistic review of academic policies and student regulations (outlined in the following section) led EPC to develop Senate document 15-8, which was approved by the full University Senate.

One idea discussed by the group the addition of a new grade to our current grading scale, a grade known as an “XF”. This grade would be issued by an instructor when a student receives a failing grade due to a breech in academic integrity. Many points and factors were considered and this will continue to be an active area of discussion in the next academic year.

**Holistic review of academic policies and student regulations**

The Office of the Registrar, along with input from the academic advising community and EPC, continues to work through the many polices that pertain to student academic regulations at Purdue. Part of this effort involves “cleaning up” outdated languages and identifying policies that are in conflict with one another. In addition, this group worked to identify policies that are vague or that seem to be interpreted and enforced differently across programs at Purdue. We expect that proposed changes to existing policies will begin to come to EPC in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ryan Cabot