

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICIES

Angela Krueger, Catherine Sherman, Todd Bruce, John Ambrose, Rebecca Drenovsky,
Margaret Farrar, Rick Greci, Jim Krukones, Anne Kugler, Kathleen Manning, Al Miciak,
Michelle Millet, Maryclaire Moroney, Olivia Shackleton, and Walter Simmons

January 23, 2019
9:00am, CAS Conference Room

NOTES

Present: J. Ambrose, M. Moroney, A. Krueger, C. Sherman, R. Drenovsky, O. Shackleton, C. Sheil, J. Krukones, A. Kugler

The minutes from December 5th, 2018 were approved.

C. Sherman began the meeting with several announcements. The Provost's Office is sending out invitations for the creation of a SmartCatalog steering committee. This committee will be helmed by C. Sherman and A. Krueger, in conjunction with J. Krukones and Eileen Egan. The tentative timeline for full SmartCatalog implementation is mid-April. Faculty Council also approved the posting of the midterm grade and incomplete policies. Any feedback generated will be brought to UCEP in the near future.

C. Sherman introduced the first policy proposal regarding the residency requirement for minors and concentrations within majors. Current policy states that 50% of a major and degree must be done in residency (credits earned at JCU or through an approved dual-degree or study abroad program). The proposed policy update would expand this to include minors and concentrations. C. Sherman observed that this policy would help to maintain John Carroll degree integrity. While agreeing with the overall spirit of the policy, R. Drenovsky did not feel as though the language about standardized coding in the proposal's recommendations section was relevant to include. She suggested that either more detail be added to the proposal to illustrate why it warranted inclusion or it be removed and developed into its own policy proposal. Similarly, M. Moroney wondered if the language about concentrations was necessary, as concentrations are technically already considered part of a major. A. Krueger agreed with R. Drenovsky and supported the removal of the standardized coding section from the policy. C. Sherman will revise the policy and then submit to faculty council.

The next proposal addressed credit from previously awarded degrees. The university currently has no formal written policy around this topic; however UCEP is proposing one that will allow international students to pursue a second Bachelor's degree if the one sought is different from their first degree. Credit from the first degree would be reviewed and potentially awarded by the Registrar's Office according to University transfer course policies; domestic students would not be able to pursue a second Bachelor's degree at John Carroll. R. Drenovsky commented that she wasn't comfortable with how the policy gave students different opportunities based solely on where they were from. A. Krueger also observed that if a student with a previously awarded degree from John Carroll wanted to come back and earn a different undergraduate degree, there would be no way to differentiate the GPAs in Banner. In addition, students would have limited access to financial aid. After further conversation from committee members it was decided in an effort to maintain consistency, the policy should be rewritten to indicate that no student with a previously awarded Bachelor's degree would be eligible to pursue a second

Bachelor's degree. The committee also decided to include recommendations for the development of additional post-baccalaureate programs that would serve students more effectively.

A. Krueger then transitioned the committee into a broad discussion about transfer credit and orientation policy and procedure recommendations. R. Drenovsky shared that she doesn't feel like John Carroll is upholding the transfer policies as they are outlined in the bulletin. Her specific example was around the 2.0 GPA cut-off. Particularly in regards to those students transferring from a community college, it is not uncommon to see at least a one letter grade drop after they begin at John Carroll. If the institution is accepting those students either close to or slightly below the 2.0 cut-off, we are not setting them up for success. She stated that she would be interested in seeing data around transfer students. She also mentioned there seems to be an upward trend in seeing students at orientation whose official transcripts haven't yet been received or evaluated. A. Krueger proposed that students have a deadline of no later than one semester after admittance for John Carroll to receive their final transcripts; anything received after the one semester deadline would not be eligible to transfer. She also suggested placing registration holds on student accounts until transcripts are received. C. Sheil expressed support for these actions. R. Drenovsky also voiced frustration at the increase in pressure she's received from the Office of Admissions around creating pathways. C. Sherman added that academic affairs support for pathways could be helpful. C. Sherman proposed the creation of a survey, targeting faculty and staff members, in an effort to gauge feedback on what went well during the overall transfer process, including orientations, and what could be improved upon for the future. Both she and A. Krueger will craft possible survey questions to present at the next UCEP meeting. If possible, A. Krueger will also reach out to T. Bruce for any transfer data that may be pertinent to include.

After no further discussion, the meeting concluded at 9:56am.

Notes recorded by S. Payne