

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®
STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE
Faculty Center
1216 East Mabel Street - PO Box 210456
621-1342 (Fax: 621-8844)
facultycenter@email.arizona.edu

Student Affairs Policy Committee Annual Report 2018-2019

SAPC Members:

Diane Ohala, **CHAIR**, Linguistics (6/16-5/19)
Cheryl Cuillier, University Libraries-Research & Learning (6/14-5/19)
Brennen Feder, ASUA (8/17-5/19)
Jeremy Frey, English (6/18-5/19)
Ms. Fiona Grugan, GPSC (8/18-5/19)
Leila Hudson, Middle Eastern & North African Studies (1/18-5/19)
Lauri Macmillan Johnson, Landscape Architecture & Planning (7/10-5/19)
Kimberly Marchesseault, Management and Organizations (6/18-5/19)
Jeff Stone, Psychology, (6/14-5/19) Sabbatical
Kendal Washington White, Dean of Students, *ex-officio* (8/09-)

During the academic year 2018-2019, the committee met September 10, 2018; October 15, 2018; February 13, 2019; March 20, 2019; and April 10, 2019. Details and highlights are provided below.

Topics and action items for September 10, 2018 included:

Campus Pantry: The committee discussed the Campus Pantry's success since visiting SAPC the previous year, including its efforts to increase in size and increase its schedule. K. Washington White noted that a budget proposal had been submitted to President Robbins' office (nb. a subsequent visit by President Robbins to the Pantry achieved very favorable results). F. Grugan from GPSC suggested that the Pantry consider an earlier opening date (e.g., early August), given that many graduate students arrive then but have not received a stipend yet. Chair Ohala agreed to follow-up on this suggestion.

CAPS update: K. Washington White reported that CAPS will be hiring more mental health providers for the student population. One had been hired already through the student services fee, and there was a commitment to hire eleven more in the near future. In addition, a counselor from will be housed in the Dean of Students office in the Nugent Building to do screening and referrals.

Miscellaneous costs to students: Committee members talked about student program fees, student teaching fees, course fees, and the additional costs to students over and above tuition. The hope is that some costs will be mitigated by the conflict of interest textbook policy (UHAP 2.11) approved last year. Further suggestions regarding potential cost reductions in course materials will be addressed in the piece of UHAP Chapter 7 that was ultimately separated from the self-authored materials policy.

Priority topics for 2018-19: The committee discussed plans to address the following topics in the coming year: textbook adoption letter from the Provost, follow-up on textbook policy implementation, DACA Students, program fees, faculty awareness re safe zone and VETS training, UA Disability Culture Center/DRC best practices, First Cats, SPEAC (Students Promoting Empowerment and Consent), etc.

Topics and action items for October 15, 2018 included:

Course Materials Adoption Policy: The committee was charged with revisiting UHAP 2.11 to assist in the creation of FAQs to be housed online that will help teaching faculty navigate the policy once it goes into effect. Suggested FAQs devised by the office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs were reviewed and various edits were proposed, including language that makes it clear that the policy is not intended to be punitive, but merely to provide transparency for students when instructors require texts that they have written. Representatives from SAPC were requested to attend an upcoming Dean's Council meeting to discuss the policy, field questions, and collect feedback, including a proposal by the College of SBS to provide an online reporting portal system that could be potentially be used by all teaching faculty to report the conflict of interest. (nb. C. Cullier attend the Dean's Council meeting, and Chair Ohala and C. Cullier were involved in vetting the initial instantiation of the portal).

Other suggestions included providing a general information page for new authors regarding this policy as well as a list of tips and potential pitfalls (such as dealing with predatory publishers) when designing materials for a course. New Faculty Orientation was discussed as a potential venue during which such information could be effectively shared. In addition, it was discussed whether this conflict of interest could be incorporated into the Conflict of Interest Form that goes out to faculty every June, but this timeline does not sync well with the early textbook adoption dates established by UA BookStores.

Promotion of Ally Training: Chair Ohala raised the possibility of having a centralized and/or department location where students could find out which individuals in a department have had any type of ally training, similar to what the Linguistics Department does. The committee endorsed this suggestion and Chair Ohala will follow-up with relevant constituencies.

Topics and action items for February 13, 2019 included:

Semester Textbook Adoption Letter: The committee reviewed, edited, and discussed the Textbook Adoption Letter sent on behalf of the Provost that is crafted by SAPC each semester to remind teaching faculty about course material adoption deadlines. K. Washington White offered to contact the bookstore for information regarding recent adoption stats, although follow-up with UA BookStores personnel resulted in these numbers being excluded. L. Hudson suggested that there be multiple reminders (endorsed by the entire committee), especially regarding the fact that instructors opting for no required textbooks still need to inform UABooktores of that decision. Two email were sent to all teaching faculty prior to the March 17th deadline.

Update on Course Materials Adoption Policy: Chair Ohala reported her the results of her conversation with the new VP for Faculty Affairs, Andrea Romero. In that discussion, it was unclear where the FAQ page that was reviewed the previous year, and whether the suggestions

made last year were vetted and/or implemented. The FAQ was not present on the policy page for UHAP 2.11, as would be indicated, but rather is on a page under the Faculty Affairs office's purview. J. Cherry followed up after the meeting and the FAQ is now linked on the policy page. Chair Ohala agreed to follow up about the FAQ suggestions that had not been implemented or reviewed.

Presentation by Guest Natalynn Masters (ASUA President): N. Masters presented the committee with information regarding ASUA's structure, function and overall pressing concerns, including campus safety (specifically, lighting and blue lights), the Live Safe and I Will campaigns. N. Masters also strongly endorsed the idea of a central/department online repository for campus allies (individuals who have elected to participate in training of various types). Discussion also included student opinion of UHAP 2.11 and ASUA Senator B. Feder informed the committee of a resolution he was helping to author in ASUA on the issue of textbook affordability.

Topics and action items for March 20, 2019 included:

Presentation by Guest Marie Teemant (GPSC President): M. Teemant N. Masters presented the committee with information regarding GPSC's history, structure, function, and relationship to ASUA. Much of the focus and discussion was on various funding opportunities for graduate students. There are three main ways that students get funding: the travel grant program, research and project grants, and professional opportunity development grants. Currently via these grants, there is \$350,000 total per fiscal year to dispense and they hope to increase that amount in future years. The committee asked for clarification on how these opportunities are advertised and whether SAPC could help to promote awareness, particularly among faculty who could encourage their students to apply for these opportunities. M. Teemant emphasized how graduate students can themselves get involved (reviewing grants, applying for grants, serving as an office, coming to social events, etc.) and the committee also discussed how to assist in promoting these opportunities as well.

Review of Electronic Privacy Policy with Celina Ramirez, Lanita Collete: The committee was asked to review the UA's revised Electronic Privacy Policy (EPP) and hosted Celina Ramirez (Chief Compliance Officer, Executive Office of the President), Lanita Collette (Chief Information Security Officer, UITS) and others involved in the revisions. The EPP is just one of 17 different policies recommended for revision by a recent audit, which are mostly regarding information security with this one privacy policy. The original EPP was drafted in 2009 and had not been updated since that time. Language from that document was moved to the University Privacy Statement and the EPP now correctly reflects what actions are required by different individuals at the UA, including all UA employees, regarding electronic privacy. The committee asked a number of clarifying questions, made suggestions about how to bring the policies to Senate, and suggested that more faculty/student feedback on these policies might be solicited, so that all stakeholders have a role in their development. L. Collette confirmed the intention to be as transparent as possible regarding these revisions (nb. B. Feder, ASUA Senator and SAPC member, was contacted after the meeting and was asked to join in the process as a student representative).

Topics and action items for April 10, 2019 included:

General Updates: ASUA Senator B. Feder announced that the resolution regarding textbook affordability was unanimously passed in Senate. L. Hudson and Chair Ohala also discussed the

recent review of the Campus Repository housed here at the UA to increase Open Access (and which was a topic at the last Senate meeting) as another option for instructors and students. L. Hudson also discussed the open letter to President Robbins regarding the AZ3 and recent events surrounding this issue. It was noted that the charges against the students may be dropped and the entire event treated as Code of Conduct through the Dean of Students Office. K. Washington White abstained from commenting on this issue due to conflict of interest (nb. L. Hudson reported some days after the meeting this did come to pass). The committee discussed campus climate, lack of awareness of campus guests and other issues that could be addressed to ensure safety for all on campus.

Presentation by F. Grugan, GPSC and SAPC member: F. Grugan discussed the Universal Design Summit that she attended, which purpose is to highlight four main barriers for anyone on campus who needs additional resources: technology, curriculum/pedagogy, culture, and physical space. For instance, the Disability Resource Center (DRC) gave 1300 exams last semester and over 1100 of them were just for time and a half for tests. If instructors could offer that time and a half for testing, then 80% of the tests given would not need to be given via the DRC. Committee member Grugan discussed this to promote new thinking on how we can make our campus more inclusive to all, and the committee discussed other ways to address these issues.

F. Grugan also raised the inequity in full-time status rules for graduate students with GTA/GRA responsibilities vs. those who work full-time. There is a credit inequity, such that GTA/GRAs can take fewer credits to be considered full-time but students otherwise working full-time (but not as a GTA/GRA) must take more. Chair Ohala agreed to raise this issue at the next SEC meeting (nb. the GPSC representative at that meeting also noted that the inequity is even more serious for international students). This is an action item to pursue in the next academic year.

Finally, F. Grugan also noted that, in general, graduate students don't have enough money, enough time, and too many workshops. F. Grugan also noted the need for better mentoring, transparency of adjustments in student fees (like for the rec center). These are also action items to pursue in the next academic year.

UHAP Chapter 7 Revisions: the committee discussed revisions to the piece of UHAP Chapter 7 that was divorced from UHAP 2.11 under J. Stone's leadership. The document had been sent around prior to the meeting and also received feedback from other Senate constituencies. The committee unanimously agreed that the document should stay as it is and that it provided valuable information on ways to lower costs for students in regard to course material selection. The committee also felt that it was not policy, per se, but rather Best Practices, and discussed where it might best be housed to have the most potential for a positive impact. Chair Ohala agree to follow up in the next SEC meeting (nb. It was agreed at that meeting the it should not be part of UHAP Chapter 7, but will be presented at the next Senate meeting as an information item for feedback, including suggestions on where to house and maintain it).

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Ohala, Ph.D.
Chair, SAPC