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UNO Office of Academic and Student Affairs

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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Attending

Academic Integrity Policy
The academic integrity policy was updated by Faculty Senate in March 2016. The Undergraduate Catalog is being revised by Phil Covington. Working with Deb Smith-Howell to ensure the policy is updated in the Graduate Catalog.

Is the policy being executed as written? How is the policy being communicated to faculty? Policy notes that C/Ds and the Registrar are notified if sanction of F imposed, but is this occurring? Registrar gets course grades but no indication of if F is for academic dishonesty. Appears as if the policy is not consistently communicated to faculty and that many on the academic side confuse the policy and process for academic integrity with grade appeals. Faculty can access policy in catalog and on Student Code of Conduct site (maintained by Phil Covington). Colleges should communicate policy to faculty. Does Faculty Senate offer “boiler plate” language like for plagiarism? No, but they may be considering it. Recommend that faculty include policy and consequences of violating the policy on their syllabi. Consequences for academic integrity violations vary significantly across faculty. May be possible for colleges to develop guidelines for faculty about syllabus requirements. Unclear if consequences of violations can be defined by college or if that is part of academic freedom. Academic integrity policy and process is different than grade appeals, which are college-specific. Flowchart diagraming the academic integrity process is in development. Candice will send the updated academic integrity policy out to colleges once update is coordinated with Graduate Studies, and will also ask that colleges remind faculty that academic integrity and grade appeals are distinct policies and processes.

Are academic integrity violations being tracked and reported, as provided by the policy? The following summarizes the outcomes and reporting configurations:

a. Grade of F reported to C/D and Registrar
b. Other outcomes recommended reporting to C/D, Dean, and Student Affairs
c. If C/D involved, C/D maintains record, and faculty member may report sanction to Dean and Student Affairs
d. If Dean involved, sanction reported to student, faculty member, and Student Affairs

The policy requires reporting to and by different parties at different stages of the process, and also identifies Academic and Student Affairs as the body responsible for tracking academic integrity violations. The policy is confusing in terms of who should track the different types of outcomes. The Maxient incident reporting form is an option for a longer term solution, but premature to adopt now –
too many unanswered questions. Faculty Senate has indicated that they will work on revising the policy and clarifying it over the next year. For institutional accreditation requirements, we need to be collecting/analyzing data on violations, discussing the results, and making decisions in a manner that is consistent with the continuous quality improvement model. Would it be possible to use college grade appeal data? Some track grade appeals but not all as the goal is typically the lowest possible level of resolution, which may not be recorded. Also, academic integrity cases do not always rise to the college level. Could ask C/Ds about the number of Fs issued for academic integrity. Jill will develop a simple online survey to keep responses in a useable format. Ultimately, still use Maxient form as tool for reporting to Student Affairs. Important to get feedback from Faculty Senate and student government, but they do not have decision making authority over the process, only the policy. The security of the database was discussed and how it protects the confidentiality and rights of students. Very few people have access to the data. The length of time that records are maintained is determined by the NU Board of Regents policy on records retention. Who is responsible for completing the Maxient form? The faculty member will complete the form once the process has run its course on the academic side.

C/D Workshop Update
C/D workshop a few weeks back was well attended and well received, especially the sessions on program level assessment and data/decision support tools. Also, new faculty workload policy was discussed by Deb Smith-Howell. Policy is in effect for Fall 2016, but final version has not yet been disseminated broadly.

Blackboard Migration Update
Karen Hein provided an update on the Blackboard migration and noted that there will be a period when organizations are not available while they are being moved. Materials on the old system will be preserved for two years. Questions? Contact the Help Desk.

Video Content Management Update
Karen Hein provided an update on the video content management system that faculty use in teaching.

Digital Measures Update
Looking at a three pronged approach with DM:
1) Individual level reports – CVs, college-specific annual review or RPT forms? Timeline – will they be available before annual reviews next year? A&S interested in getting rid of binders. Working now on getting ACE into DM.
2) Unit level reporting being developed via dashboard
3) Integrate other data systems – ACE, MavGrants, Peoplesoft. UNO has an institutional archive (Digital Commons) for products, make DC and DM communicate with each other?

Reenrollment Dashboard
Lindsey Bandow (Institutional Effectiveness) gave an update on the enrollment dashboard, which provides enrollment statistics by pace toward graduation. Handout shows percent by college who are eligible to reenroll but have not yet done so for Fall 2016. Some colleges have specific rules about who can/cannot enroll (e.g., someone who has not passed a required course after 3 attempts). At this time about 60% at UNO have reenrolled for Fall 2016. Pace report can help identify seniors with more than 120 credits completed who are close. How do internships affect data? Some students do internship and
push back graduation intentionally. Is it possible to link MavTrack advising system with this data? Add box to MavTrack with internship information and company? There are approximately 2,000 juniors eligible to enroll at this time. Contact OIE if staff need help with accessing report.

Faculty Credentials Update
Hank Robinson has found that the reports produced by SAP are not accurate in terms of faculty credentials. Requirements for faculty credentials from HLC were discussed in general terms. Starting in 2017 will need degree verification, transcript for faculty teaching GenEd, waiver process, and identification of “related fields” by units. A team from Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness are working on ideas for how to bring the hiring process into compliance yet preserve college-specific processes already in place. Discussed ideas and challenges associated with getting transcripts linked with timing in hiring process, transcripts from other NU institutions, and transcripts for faculty who have been at UNO for several years. Discussed CVs and if C/Ds routinely keep them and in what form (i.e., print, electronic). Can Digital Measures screens be developed in a limited way for part-time faculty? Possible to use software in hiring where the faculty member uploads the CV and transcript at the time of application? Could this be done in a manner that is separated from the existing application process which requires numerous approvals? Need to be able to hire part-time faculty quickly because of unexpected vacancies.