

Faculty Senate
Academic Policies Committee
Draft Minutes
23 February 2026
1:30pm—2:30pm

In Attendance: Amy Ellison, UC Senator; Matt Varga, Graduate Education (Ex Officio); Shelly Elman, CHASS Senator (APC Chair); Lewis Baumstark, CMCS Rep; Samantha Duke White, RCOB Rep; Marie Brown, Registrar (Ex Officio), Jean Cook, Library Rep; Corey Maggiano, CHASS Senator; Ericka Wentz, UC Senator; David Newton, Provost's Office (Ex Officio), Deon Kay, SCFM Rep, Laurie Kimbrel, COE Rep.

Invited Guests: Dylan McLean, Faculty Senate Chair; Cassidy Nelson, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment & Admissions; Monica Smith, Associate Vice President of Student Success.

The meeting began at 1:32PM

- I. Minutes of the January 26, 2026 meeting were approved.
- II. Raising UWG minimum GPA requirements for admission
 - i. There seemed to be consensus that the GPA requirement for admission should be raised.
 - ii. Much of what was discussed was about optics; that we want to seem as though we are more rigorous than a 2.0 gpa requirement.
 - iii. Still, the underlying root causes, student support, needs to be addressed.
- b. **Information Item:** Recommendation: The APC thanks President Johnson for the opportunity to weigh in on the matter of raising the GPA requirement for Admission to the University. After discussion with our colleagues and within the committee, the APC recommends to the President that UWG raise its GPA requirement for admission to be commensurate with the other USG regional comprehensive institutions as a first step to ensuring student success.
- III. Developing Curricular and Content Review Process/Policy
 - a. **Information Item:** The APC thanks the Provost for the opportunity to make this recommendation. The committee recommends that curricular and content review policy be created and conducted by individual programs as required by discipline specific accreditation or industry standards.
- IV. Academic Withdrawal Policy
 - a. **Information Item:** The APC recommends that the withdrawal policy be extended to 10 weeks total

- i. The APC further recommends that students have 10 weeks to withdraw from a course. The 11th week would be a review period for the faculty member and student to discuss if withdrawal is necessary.
 - ii. If a student withdraws earlier than the 10th week of the semester, they have five to seven days to communicate with the faculty member about their grades.
 - iii. Once a student fills out and submits the withdrawal request form, an email notification will be sent to the faculty member and the student's advisor letting them know that they and the student have five to seven days to communicate about how the student is doing in the course and if withdrawal from the course is needed.
 - b. Hardship Withdrawal deadline
 - i. **Information Item:** The APC recommends that the institution increase the amount of time to submit for a Hardship withdrawal from six months to one academic year.
 - c. Shelly will contact Dr. Tim Schroer about Graduate student Hardship withdrawals and how increased professional work responsibility might cause hardship for a student with graduate course work.
- V. Adding UR designation to syllabi for all HiP courses
 - a. The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) wants designation in syllabi for already approved courses to bring visibility to the designation and the courses support for undergraduate research/creative activity, and to maintain transparency about the designation to all faculty who teach the course.
 - b. This designation will not entail any changes to course content because faculty and/or programs would have already submitted a request and received approval for a UR attribute (UR 1-4) for any syllabi with this proposed language
 - c. As all HiP courses are not UR ones, will other courses with a different HiP designation be so labeled in syllabi?
 - i. Shelly will contact OUR to ask this question.
 - d. **Information Item:** The APC approved the request to include the UR designation in all syllabi of approved UR courses.
- VI. APC Chair for 2026-2027 AY
 - a. Discussed briefly. When do most departments/colleges determine Senate representation?
 - i. CHASS determines in March?
 - b. COE is going through some departmental reorganization and it is therefore difficult at this time to determine if workload will allow for chairing APC.
 - c. The Library doesn't have enough faculty to serve on every committee anymore and will discuss service responsibilities that include Senate committee representation in April.

- d. Executive Committee representation is valuable in that it affords opportunities to talk with the President and Provost.
- VII. Other business
 - a. Academic Calendar AY 2029-2030
 - b. Graduate Faculty Status document
- VIII. The meeting adjourned at 2:36PM

Respectfully submitted by Shelly Elman