

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICIES

Angela Krueger, Steve Herbert, Todd Bruce, Ed Mish, Rebecca Drenovsky, Chris Sheil, Rick Greci, Jim Krukones, Kathleen Manning, Michelle Millet, Maryclaire Moroney, Lisa Brown Cornelius, Zeki Saritoprak, Walter Simmons, Charles Stehlik, and Olivia Shackleton

October 16th, 2019
9:00am, CAS Conference Room

NOTES

Present: A. Krueger, Z. Saritoprak, M. Moroney, R. Drenovsky, J. Krukones, E. Mish, W. Simmons, K. Manning, L. Brown Cornelius, C. Sheil

A. Krueger had no general announcements. The minutes from October 2nd, 2019 were then approved.

Discussion then transitioned to transfer credit. There has been a large influx of first year students beginning at John Carroll with transfer credit. At one point, limiting the amount of transferrable AP credit was proposed. The data, however, did not support this request. A. Krueger then suggested the need to examine how different departments and programs are allowing courses to transfer. W. Simmons stated that the university should be aware of what its competitors are doing, as limiting transfer credit could result in the loss of potential students. R. Drenovsky wondered if A. Krueger was aware of any struggling programs in particular; she indicated Biology and the Honors Program. As former head of the Biology department, R. Drenovsky observed that the problem was not so much with AP credit, but rather with where the courses were completed. M. Moroney commented that this conversation also opens up the broader question of partner agreements and pathways with other local institutions. She also supported the need to re-evaluate how credits are transferring into John Carroll and wondered if this would be a discussion for department chairs. R. Drenovsky remarked that it sounds necessary to do an “ugly data dive” to review prior student transfer grades compared to grades they receive once they arrive at John Carroll; this information will help empower chairs and advisors. Additionally, she commented that transfer students need more support. Too much focus is placed on bringing students to John Carroll and not enough focus is placed on helping them succeed after they are here. R. Drenovsky also observed that students bringing in a lot of transfer credit tend to view themselves differently than other traditional first-year students. L. Brown Cornelius stated that regardless, all students are still in the same place developmentally, and still need to experience the same social integration; however, she did agree that perhaps specific information sessions could be provided during New Student Orientation or different advising experiences could be offered. A. Krueger then summarized the conversation, stating that while the committee does not advocate placing a limit on AP transfer, it does endorse examining transfer credit data more thoroughly in order to provide recommendations to Enrollment and the retention committee. A. Krueger also shared that after consulting with the Office of Legal Affairs, the Core Committee has no plans to restrict the transfer core to traditional transfer students; any student transferring 45+ credit hours is eligible.

The Committee then discussed the Deadline to Receive Transcripts Proposal, which would create a deadline for the receipt of transcripts for courses taken at other institutions. A. Krueger commented that not receiving transcripts in a timely manner is affecting registration time tickets, pre-requisite overrides, repeated courses, graduation, etc. W. Simmons wondered if advisors are aware that transcripts are necessary for credits to transfer. He also recommended reminding advisors to have this conversation with students during advising sessions. The Office of the Registrar includes language about sending transcripts in their biannual semester reminder emails and in petition approval emails; however, as A. Krueger stated, students frequently forget it is their responsibility. Discussion then centered on brainstorming the best ways of communicating the message to students. Numerous ideas were generated and ultimately there was consensus for needing a policy for a receipt of transcript deadline with strong communication to students and advisors. The policy proposal was then amended to state that transcripts need to be received before the last Friday of the semester, prior to finals week. The committee determined that the policy did not need to be sent to Faculty Council and will instead be posted for public feedback.

There was no time to discuss the last two bullet items on the agenda; they will be addressed in the next scheduled meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9:55am.

Notes recorded by S. Payne