**Academic Affairs Committee**

**Minutes Meeting No.14**

**Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

**6:00 P.M.**

**VIRTUAL MEETING per state law and Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order**

**Call to Order 6:01**

**Roll Call**:

* Blum Present
* Cline Present
* Harris Absent
* Lahiri Present
* Mainieri Present
* Nikolaou Present
* Peterson Present
* Phillips Present
* Spranger Present
* Swiech Present
* Toth Present
* Hurd (Provost’s designee) Present
* Paolucci (UCC liaison) Absent

**Order of Business:**

1. Approval of committee minutes
   * Documents provided to committee members in advance of the meeting: *Minutes#13AAC03.24.21*
   * Changes: Mainieri needs to be marked as absent, Harris as present
   * Motion to approve, with changes: Cline
   * Second: Swiech
   * Roll call vote:
     1. Blum Aye
     2. Cline Aye
     3. Lahiri Aye
     4. Mainieri Aye
     5. Nikolaou Aye
     6. Peterson Aye
     7. Phillips Aye
     8. Spranger Aye
     9. Swiech Aye
     10. Toth Aye
2. Policy 2.1.4 Withdrawal
   * Documents provided to committee members in advance of the meeting:
     1. Executive Committee Minutes2020-08-17
     2. 2.1.14 Withdrawal Policy
   * Guest present: Jess Ray, University Registrar
   * Discussion
     1. Information from committee chair:
        1. Fall 2020 – temporary change in withdrawal dates due to pandemic
        2. Fall 2020 – request from Registrar to consider more permanent change to align withdrawal date from course with withdrawal date from University to decrease confusion
        3. Looked at other universities: Large proportion of IL universities are in 10th week, with others coming a bit later (for course withdrawal)
        4. May have implications for graduate students, particularly those who have GA positions
        5. Concerns for pushing the date late from academic standpoint:
           1. Group projects
           2. Performance based classes
           3. Impact on student evaluations
     2. Information from Jess Ray:
        1. Registrar has done poll of office impacted by this policy to see if major concerns with later date
           1. Many in strong favor
           2. Some minor concerns from a few offices (Athletics, Housing), but foresee ability to adapt
        2. Now have automated system that makes workflow with withdrawals more streamlined
        3. Feedback form student success folks says that earlier dates can make it difficult for a student to determine whether they should withdrawal
        4. From communications standpoint, a bit easier to have one date for withdrawal
     3. Questions from committee:
        1. What’s the desire of the Registrar’s Office?
        2. Should we have a separate process for grad students? Perhaps have grad coordinator have to sign off on withdrawal before approved
     4. Committee discussion
        1. Same or different deadline – same deadline for both course and university withdrawal
        2. What’s the deadline – support for later deadline than current 8 week deadline for course withdrawal, general consensus for 12 week deadline
        3. Not sufficient time to make necessary changes and vote
        4. Registrar to bring proposal in May or August to amend extension through Spring 2022 semester to allow time to consider what deadline is most appropriate
3. English 101 and ISU writing program (item 16)
   * Documents provided to committee members in advance of the meeting: Issues Pending List
   * No time to discuss
4. Writing Across the Curriculum (item 17)
   * Documents provided to committee members in advance of the meeting: Issues Pending List
   * No time to discuss

Motion to adjourn: Cline

Second: Toth

Adjourned at 6:56pm

Adjourn