

All University Committee (AUC) Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 2021

3:30 pm

Virtual *via* Google Meet

Committee Members in Attendance:

Franca Barricelli, Laura Bayless, Deborah Benes, Oscar Burgos-Pimentel, Cathy Canney, Joe Cautela, Rachelle Dermer, Rala Diakite, Steven Fiedler, Kerry McManus, Daniel Sarefield, Kisha Tracy, Amy Wehe

Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Amy Wehe at 3:32 p.m.

Approval of Subcommittee Minutes:

Will vote the student committee minutes in the next meeting.

Approval of AUC Minutes:

Motion: Steve Fiedler Second: Daniel Sarefield

Vote: 11/0/3 (Y/N/A)

Referral of Proposals to AUC Sub-Committees:

Motion: Steve Fiedler Second: Daniel Sarefield

Refer proposals AUC #3 – AUC #14 to the Curriculum Committee.

Vote: 14/0/0

Proposals to Consider

AUC #01: Academic Calendars 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

Motion: Steve Fiedler Second: Daniel Sarefield

The 2022 – 2023 academic calendar was approved last year for the AUC AY2021. The parameters are defined in the contract for the # of days that are required. Because of how September 1 falls on the calendar, the president's address and Development Day are on the same day.

The course drop date aligns with the last day to add a class. We clarified the language of the drop/add course date, along with clarification of adding through Web4 and Red Card. The language has been

changed to say the following: “Final day to add / drop a course in Web4”, “Final day to add a course with permission of instructor (red Card)”.

The 2023 – 2024 calendar has the same language (clarification of add/drop course language), added as we just discussed in the 2022 – 2023 calendar.

- We are keeping the reading days in fall and spring.
- The move-in day falls on Labor Day, how it was previously before.
- Development Day and President’s Address is on separate days.

We had friendly amendments from the following subcommittees:

- **Student Affairs** – Fall 2023: Change the Final Day for withdrawal from courses to Friday, November 24th.
- **Academic Policy** – Fall 2023: Change the Final Day for withdrawal from courses to Monday, November 27th.
- **Curriculum** – Fall 2023: Change the Final Day for withdrawal from courses to Monday, November 27th.

We decided to move the withdrawal date to Nov 27 because the original date fell on the Thanksgiving holiday. Friday the campus is open, the campus may be open but students will not be here to think of that. Monday they can think about it and most likely will be here and able to make the withdrawal if need to.

Committee Discussion:

Fall 2022: Propose we have new students move in on 30th, which is a Tuesday instead of on Monday. Based on length of orientation program. **Sponsor accepted the amendment to change the move-in date to Aug 30.**

Friday being first day of classes, move it to the following week. Committee said new students will be here and it’s important they have first day of class on Friday. There are maybe 10% of classes that fall on a Friday. Fall 2022 only have 12 Fridays and dropping that will bring it down to 11. We want to keep it as much as possible so classes have the same number of dates throughout the week.

Development Day and President’s Address are on one day in one calendar and two day on another calendar. That was because that was the only way it would work based on how classes are laid out for the semester. The goal is to get back to separate days when we can. It is the guide post, it is undesirable for us to have on same day but the way September 1st fell later in the week.

Discussion of Subcommittee Amendments:

The friendly amendments come to us from the subcommittees and the AUC committee has the final say along with the president as well.

We have two different days to move the final day of withdrawal of courses. The committee supports the November 27th date. Not many students have classes on Friday, and Monday most students are on campus on Monday so that day makes more sense. It gives them an extra day to make up their mind,. Being in the middle of thanksgiving they are probably home and not a good time to try to think about calling and email offices to try and drop a course.

Committee supports moving forward to change the “final day to withdraw from a course” date to November 27th.

There was an amendment from the subcommittee to change the Columbus Day/Indigenous Day to only “Indigenous Day”. The reason we had both was because other colleges have both. Also the state of Massachusetts hasn’t put that through yet and there are legislations still going through that hasn’t gone through yet. We have to keep it with the state until they make that decision.

We can put Indigenous day first. That is a friendly amendment and has been accepted by sponsor.

There was a recommendation from student affairs committee to have two wellness days added to the calendar. Students ask since they experience them they enjoyed to have those days to catch up on assignments, anything that is overwhelming for them or from their anxieties that are effecting them.

Sponsor stated we did wellness day once to replace the spring break and instead we spread them out. We have to remember that spring break is back, we didn’t lose the spring break days so we have those days back in.

General Education chair stated we have more focus on wellness since the pandemic. We have a personal wellness in the curriculum, if it’s possible to do. In some classes there are a lot of focus on personal wellness. Wellness days have been successful things that amongst the student bodies to have those break throughout the school year.

Committee noted it changes the internal calculus on how many week days (M, T, W...) It’s more complicated. We’d have to go back and count the days. Spring break are non-instructional days. Wellness days are non-instructional days but we have to look at what day classes will have the least impact of which one to take it from.

Sponsor stated when we passed the wellness day on their own we didn’t have that week of spring break.

Committee noted that the sponsor can look at adding two wellness days to the spring 2024 calendar if it fits and bring back to the committee. Voting on 2022-2023 and bringing back the 2023-2024. Ask Academic Affairs to come back with another version and can discuss with the committee at next

meeting. If we delay until December it will be problematic. We could approve the draft and we propose she bring back to the meeting then change and ring back next year.

Vote on AUC #1 without the wellness day. But it's incumbent that Academic Affairs brings back for the second round of this calendar. You can get another crack at the AUC level for new version of draft. You can put forward a revised version that AUC has discussed and put forth next year.

We're voting on that wellness days well be considered. Recommended to Academic Affairs to come back with wellness days for spring 2024

Vote: 14/0/0

Registrar Notes

We had a note from the Registrar's Office on AUC #75 and AUC #133 from AY 2021.

Adding SI and PL designations to the ENSC 1000 Introduction to Environmental Science as it is cross-listed with BIOL 1010 Introduction to Environmental Science in the same academic department.

We may have to visit the need to have two courses. Students will have to take one or the other. Classes are still the same there are no difference. Same course just two designations. There's no actions that have to take place for this.

Meeting to Go Until 5:00 p.m.

Motion: Steve Fiedler Second: Deborah Benes

Motion for the AUC meeting to go until 5:00 until the end of the year.

This vote is for this committee (AUC), we are just making this motion for this (AY: 2021 – 2022) school year. This is something that AUC will have to do next year. If whole committee is okay we will not have to stop at 4:30 p.m. every week.

Vote: 12/2/0 (Y/N/A)

NECHE Open Forums

Cathy put notes from two forums to the committee in email. See comments that were generated from first open forum.

Most people who attended the open forums were already part of the

NECHE process. SGA also co-sponsored the forums but was unable to attend. NECHE co-chairs, Canney and Deptula meet with the SGA at their November 2nd meeting and received feedback.

Motion to send open forum comments to President Lapidus by Steve Fiedler and seconded by Daniel Sarefield.

Vote: 13/0/0

Other Business

Note in Today's Agenda: The General Education / LAS subcommittee was dissolved in the Curriculum Committee meeting. They feel it wasn't doing the job it had intended to do so easier to dissolve it.

Items from Floor

None.

Adjournment

Motion: Steve Fiedler Second: Daniel Sarefield

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm

Vote: 13/0/0