

Undergraduate Policy Committee – 2019 / 2020 Annual Report

The Undergraduate Policy Committee (UPC) considers University-wide policies on undergraduate academic affairs. This includes approving new degree programs and majors, reviewing existing programs as part of their regular Quality Enhancement Review (QER) cycles, creating and modifying general policies that affect the undergraduate curriculum, and considering requests from undergraduate programs for exceptions to existing policies. The UPC has meetings scheduled every two weeks during the fall and spring semesters. We met physically during the 2019 – 2020 academic year up to the closure of campus in March. UPC members also participated in extensive coordination and collaboration on policies via email in the academic year as well as the summer of 2019.

Summer 2019

The main task completed during the summer of 2019 was discussion and formulation of recommendations for exit GPAs in use by some departments. The UPC determined that the current policy stated in the bulletin is reasonable. A new policy on this is not needed, but the UPC will use the following interpretation of the policy when reviewing department programs: departments should be able to state minimum grades in degree-relevant courses, but not place hurdles in the final semester of study. Additionally, the UPC will use the QER process as an opportunity to review a department's academic policies in the bulletin.

2019 – 2020 Academic Year

Quality Enhancement Review. Several undergraduate programs went through the QER process this year. The UPC reviewed the following six programs: African-American Studies, Mathematics, Scientific Computing, Sport Management, Statistics, and Modern Language and Linguistics. The UPC has the option of requiring a reviewed program to report back in two years rather than the usual seven in the case of significant concerns with the program. Both Sport Management and African-American Studies were instances of this. All programs reviewed this year were not required to report back to UPC until their next regularly scheduled QER. This is in 2021 – 2022 for African-American Studies, 2024 – 2025 for Sport Management, and 2026 – 2027 for the rest of the programs.

Degree Approvals. Several new combined degree programs were reviewed and approved by the UPC.

BA Art History / MA Museum & Cultural Heritage Studies
BS Accounting / MBA Business Administration
BS Finance / MBA Business Administration
BS Finance / MS Finance
BS Human Resources / MBA Business Administration
BS Marketing / MBA Business Administration
BS Management Information Systems / MBA Business Administration
BS Management Information Systems / MS Management Information Systems
BS Real Estate / MBA Business Administration

BS Risk Management and Insurance / MBA Business Administration
BS Risk Management and Insurance / MS Risk Management and Insurance

Policy. Several policy items were discussed and approved. The Academic Retention Policy was updated. It now uses only credits earned at FSU to determine when a student enters academic probation. The timeline for leaving probation was clarified and extended. The University-wide Standards for Undergraduate Teaching Assistants was modified to include the current job codes and to clarify the training needed for various positions, as well as specifying the type of grading to be performed by undergraduate students. The Grade Appeal process was modified to reflect current administrative titles, provide very specific time frames for appeals, and clarify the academic level of the students in the appeals screening committee. The first two policies were passed by the Faculty Senate in March 2020, the third is on the agenda for April 2020. The UPC also considered several exceptions to the final exam schedule.

Details on the above actions can be found within the minutes of the UPC and / or the minutes of the Faculty Senate:

<https://upc.undergrad.fsu.edu/upc>

<https://facsenate.fsu.edu/>

UPC Members, 2019 / 2020

Ellen Crabtree	Jim Dawkins	Elizabeth Foster	Patrick Hollis
Lisa Tripp	Tingting Zhao	Bahram Arjmandi	Gregory Springer
Andrew Askew	Katarzyna Bugaj	Henry Fuelberg	Daniel Mears
Lisa Munson	Rosemary Prince	Besiki Stvilia	Laura Ballard
Colleen Ganley	Lydia Hanks	Karen McGinnis	Sherry Schofield
Susan Shelton	Xinlin Tang	Dina Wilke	Lama Zia Jaber
Irena Hutton			

Eric Chicken
Chair, UPC
Professor
Department of Statistics
chicken@fsu.edu