

Committee on Policy Review (CPR) Fall 2019 Semester Report

Membership for 2019-2020

Chair: Cindy MacGregor, COE, 2020; Saibal Mitra, Faculty Senate Chair; Cameron Wickham, Faculty Senate Chair-Elect; Cathy Pearman, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee Chair; Mike Foster, COAL, 2020; Tom Kane, CHHS, 2020; Aimee Hendricks, SGA Rep *ex officio*; Tammy Few, Director of Human Resources, *ex officio*; Chris Craig, Office of the Provost, *ex officio*; Shannon Holt, Office of the Registrar, *ex officio*; Rachael Dockery, General Counsel, *ex officio*

Purpose

Shall meet up to twice monthly to discuss pending policies under consideration by university leadership and to review current content in the university Policy Library. Shall identify current and emerging content in the university Policy Library (excluding the Faculty Handbook) that should be reviewed by the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee or warrants further review by the faculty. Shall prepare and present periodic reports with recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding policies being referred to the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee, pending operating policies (OP) under consideration by university leadership, and other Policy Library content that should be further reviewed by the faculty.

Policies Reviewed and Actions Taken

- *Department Head Hiring Guidelines.* The Ad Hoc Advisory committee of Senate Chairs (2017-2018) developed a set of recommendations for improving guidelines for hiring department heads. A resolution from that committee, approved by Faculty Senate (SR 12-17/18, 4/12/2018), directed these guidelines to the Committee on Policy Review (CPR) for further consideration. CPR edited the proposed guidelines, presented edits to Faculty Senate, and forwarded the revised version to Academic Leadership Council (ALC). ALC formed a joint committee of administrators and faculty to propose specific policy changes. The resulting changes were made to Op7.10 and presented to Faculty Senate by the chairs of the joint committee at a fall 2019 session.
- *Faculty Handbook revisions.* CPR serves as an additional source of review for the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee (FHRC); any revisions brought forward to Faculty Senate by FHRC have been previously discussed by CPR. In addition, CPR has identified policies within the Policy Library that should be reviewed by FHRC. Most notably, CPR referred Op3.33 Workload to FHRC for their review and vetting into the *Faculty Handbook*. Furthermore, all uses of the word “faculty” within G7 (the Employee Handbook) were reviewed by CPR and several items were referred to FHRC for additional review.
- *Proposed Policy on Data on Honors for OTC Transfers.* John Chuchiak and Nathan Hoff presented this issue to CPR at the May 2019 meeting. CPR discussed this policy change and recommended it be reviewed by Academic Relations Committee early in the fall 2019 so that a possible change could be presented to Faculty Senate shortly thereafter.

The preponderance of our discussion was in support of the change 60 to 30 hours at MSU in order to receive Scholastic Honors. The Academic Relations Committee reviewed the proposed policy change and presented it to Faculty Senate in the form of a resolution at the December meeting; the resolution was approved.

- *Possible issue from a faculty member regarding Study Away policy.* A faculty member contacted CPR about a proposed change to the guest policy for Study Away. CPR deferred the issue to the appropriate administrator for their response. This referral appears to have been helpful to the faculty member who brought forward the issue to CPR.
- *University solicitation via email.* The CPR committee has been discussing university policy regarding the use of email for political solicitation. No specific actions have been recommended from this discussion as of this report.