

Academic Planning Council Minutes
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
3609 Engineering Hall

Attending: M. Arnold, W. Block, L. DeBaillie, G. Harrington, E. Harris, G. Nellis, D. Noyce, B. Pflieger,
I. Robertson, O. Schmitz, B. Van Veen

Absent: V. Bier, M. Romero, D. Thelen, C. Walters, A. Whitehorse

Guest: C. Bronkhorst, C. Sovinec

Announcements; Approval of November Minutes

Motion to approve November minutes passed unanimously.

New accelerated program in Engineering Mechanics, MS

Motion to recommend approval of the proposed accelerated program: Engineering Mechanics, MS passed unanimously.

Proposed College Policies

The College is working on a policy to gather and use student feedback in faculty reviews and promotion materials. The purpose of the policy is to identify early on those faculty who may need to improve their teaching skills and to assess the climate of classrooms and labs. The policy is not meant to be punitive but to help catch issues and put into place corrective actions when needed.

A summary of the teaching evaluations, movement of students out of the research group and overall climate and culture of the lab to be included in the review or promotion materials letter provided by the department.

There were no objections to the purpose of the policy; however, concerns were voiced regarding the implementation:

- The responsibility to review the comments and identify key words/phrases that may indicate issues in the lab/classroom should not fall to the department. The College will work on developing an automated way to gather the data.
- The types of concerns and issues that will be looked for in the comments should be added to the policy so that the faculty are informed.
- The due process of any investigation should also be outlined in the policy.
- Be aware of bias in the comments for women, non-white males.
- Difficult to get students to attend exit interviews. May tie granting of warrants to exit interviews.