Eastern Washington University

Rules Committee January 6, 2025

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Members Present: C. Castillo-Garsow, G. Hustrulid, K. Evans, P. Lam, D. Ayers, B. Biswas, C. Hazelbaker, D. Garraway, L. Reeves, K. Baldwin, C. Manikoth **University Officials:** J. Curtis, J. Coomes, A. Swenson, J. Waldo for T. Jones, S. Eubanks

1. The meeting was called to order by C. Castillo-Garsow at 3:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2024. Hearing no objections, the minutes are approved.

3. Chair's Report. C. Castillo-Garsow reported: a. Senate heard from a couple of programs with regard to the PRD (Program Review and Discontinuance) process and they were able to ask questions. If there are any other programs that want to present, they will hear from them at the next Senate meeting. Senate has not made any motions yet, but they should be able to make their final decision at the 1/27/25 meeting. **b.** They spoke with the BOT about advising and what is going on with faculty advising. Not sure they made a lot of progress towards a solution, but that in many ways isn't important. Of more importance is they are building a great back and forth with the BOT and that is a good thing. We are doing a much better job of hearing their perspective and expressing our own which is a good way to get things done. It may seem like a slower way to get things done but the BOT listens, the administration listens and things do get better if we are patient. c. The Faculty Values Committee decided to revise their charge once again after feedback from Senate and that will be discussed today. d. There are two Tuesday meetings coming up, January 21st and February 18th. He is unable to attend those meetings due to his teaching schedule so G. Hustrulid will run those meetings. e. K. Evans stated there used to be an administrative report at Rules. There has been information given to students they have to declare before they enter Eastern although the policy states they must declare by 60 credits. She doesn't like dishonesty and doing this to students is wrong. We are not a trade school but rather a university. Hope we aren't going in a direction where we are telling them something that is a false narrative. J. Coomes stated she would be happy to give an administrative report at following Rules meetings. There has been some communication that has been inaccurate, and she is willing to follow-up if they can find out where the students are getting that information. P. Lam stated over the last couple of years there has been a strong message for students to declare a lot earlier. Technically they aren't told they must, but the message is coming across to advisors that they need to declare right once they are admitted. For students the people they talk to, whether they are faculty or an advisor, they feel there is a strong push to declare. In SSRC they talked about how they frame how they speak to students who need more time. The strong message may make them feel they shouldn't continue because they don't know what major they are taking courses for. C. Castillo-Garsow stated different universities do things differently, i.e. when he applied for Cornell, he had to declare on the application which was their standard policy. That is a situation where if we want to do it, we should do it deliberatively and have everyone do it. J. Coomes stated maybe some of the messaging should be you can change your major if you decide after the fact. C. Castillo-Garsow stated maybe J. Curtis could ask the students when they feel it is right to declare. J. Curtis stated some of the miscommunication is due to CPAS. This is the first year they have done CPAS and enabling that system so maybe there are some advisors who are not fully aware of how that works and that once the students are

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declared that CPAS doesn't really take effect because they have until 180 credits so they have some wiggle room to explore.

- **4. ASEWU Update. J. Curtis reported: a.** Today is the first day of the quarter so he doesn't have a lot to report. They do have two open positions within ASEWU, Senator Chair for Undeclared Students and Senator for the College of Health Sciences and Public Health (CHSPH). The applications are on their website https://inside.ewu.edu/asewu/asewu-committee-application-2/ and are open until January 8th at midnight. **b.** The first business meeting of the quarter is scheduled tomorrow at noon.
- 5. Brief Reports. a. Academic Committee for Innovation and Technology. C. Manikoth **Reported:** they are evaluating AI tools and are on tool 2 of 3 and will make a recommendation sometime in the future. b. Academic Programs Assessment Committee. J. Waldo reported: they have been working on trying to make assessment protocols at the university clear, communicated well, and understandable to everyone so they know what their expectations are and when they need to do things. T. Jones has engaged people to create a graphic of when assessment is due, and who's doing it. They want to make sure they have all the stuff they need to get it done. They are working on getting last year's data into Nuventive. c. Faculty Values Committee. K. Evans reported: the charge is being revised with the suggestions from Senate to add more people. Will be unfinished business at the next Senate meeting. d. General Education Committee. L. Reeves reported: they are trying to think of the idea and definition of what Gen Ed is, even nationally, has changed. They are trying to figure out what they are supposed to do for assessment because their charges does mention assessment. e. Global Program Academic Committee. B. Biswas reported: they are meeting tomorrow and will look at the PDAK scholarship. Study Aboard is important for all students. f. Graduate Affairs Council. D. Ayers reported: the main thing they talked about was the Probation and Dismissal policy which will be discussed later today. There are lots of proposals in the CPAC que and they will be working on those. g. Program Review Committee. C. Hazelbaker reported: They are working with a couple of programs to hopefully do a report in April. h. Undergraduate Affairs Council. K. Baldwin reported: not much to report. The last thing they talked about was CPAC. They did spend most of the last quarter crafting their response for the PRC and sent that to Rules.
- **6.** Unfinished Business. a. Faculty Values Committee Revised Charter. K. Evans reported they added additional positions to review. Vice Provost position and no other change. **Motion carried.** Will go to Senate on the 13th of Senate.
- **7.** New Business. a. AP 303-22 Graduate Students; Probation & Dismissal: Professional Behavior/Conduct. S. Eubanks stated there was an inequity between the semester programs, core programs and online accelerated programs. Online accelerated students can get dismissed on Friday, they can apply Friday evening, and the program admits them, and they start on Monday. Another issue if a program appeals to extend the probation they keep it. There was a student who had a 2.7 for 7 terms but no one said anything, so they had to allow him to graduate. They want to mirror the Undergraduate policy which states a student that is dismissed they sit out for one term and if they get probation again, they will have to sit out for the full year. If the

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student gets less than 3.0 and they are on probation, they know they can do the work but something is standing in their way, so they want to make sure they get the time to get that fixed. If the student gets a B or higher they can stay if they don't, they get dismissed. For a student to be readmitted after dismissal they expect the student to prepare a 250–400-word statement of how they are prepared to continue in the program. C. Castillo-Garsow asked how does an academic warning end. S. Eubanks stated if the student gets a GPA higher than B. They can add something that says how they get off Academic Warning. *This will be unfinished business at the next meeting.*

- **b.** AP 303-21 Undergrad Students: Chapter 1 and 2 Student Requirements/Admission & Registration. A. Swenson stated J. Coomes worked with Gwen Cash-James to update the show the current practices. They adjusted some of the practices they are using for Washington State requirements. This will return as unfinished business at the next meeting.
- 8. Agenda Items for January 13, 2025, Senate Meeting.
 - a. Faculty Values Committee Revised Charge
 - b. PRD Recommendations from UAC and GAC
 - c. Presentations from TCOM and Modern Languages for PRD
- 9. Good of the Order. None.
- 10. Adjournment at 4:19 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.