



Shared Governance Council (SGC) Meeting Minutes May 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

Attending: President John B. Cook (Ex Officio); Vice President Andrea Nathanson (Cabinet), Vice President Darcey Kemp (Cabinet), Vice President Chris Thuot (Cabinet), David Panchenko (President, Student Government Association), Professor Christina Atwater (AUC Faculty Co-Chair), Amanda Dufault (AUC Interim Staff Co-Chair), Kim Noel (AFSCME Leadership), Professor Renae Gorman (MCCC/ PA President); Nanette Flores (Executive Assistant to the President; minutes)

Unable to attend: Vice President Mary Kaselouskas (Cabinet)

- I. Minutes from February 2024 SGC Meeting: No edits.

- II. Review/Discussion of Recommendations
 - a. Credit for Prior Learning FY24-02

As an introduction to the Credit for Prior Learning proposal, AUC Faculty Chair, Professor Atwater referred to the background information on the proposal to discuss the vision of such recommendation. Noting also STCC's current policy, highlighting that STCC currently awards credit through examinations such AP, CLEP, challenge exams and valor act.

Questions/comments: From Student Affairs, would this have any impact on financial aid eligibility suggesting also that at the implementation point we need representation from the office of Financial Aid, to bring clarity to the process. From Academic Affairs, suggested looking into NECHE Standard 4 for the limitation of prior learning credits. A discussion about type of credits also arose, STCC credits should be at the top instead of the middle. Regarding building upon policy, given as an example: nine credits Cybersecurity by default not by evaluation. Regarding the Credit for Prior Learning Policy Statement on page 5, a question arose about "by faculty in each area" - do we need to be explicit that it is not CLEP or valor area? With the valor act, do we need to go to a faculty to evaluate? Chris Atwater noted that this is intended to be a catalog – separate but under the same policy statement. In response – if the pieces are nestled do we take it to a faculty in the area? A related note from Academic Affairs, suggesting indicating somewhere that the CAO has to sign off such as curriculum. Then - Should there be a process of approval for each program? For the process or individual portfolio.

Dr. Cook commented on trying to organize a prior for learning credits policy indicating that credits for prior learning is different from portfolio assessment. There needs to be clarity on implementation (not the policy) the portion of the faculty involved in evaluation – Discussion on the implementation: as for instance – students will not be charged for accumulated credits. Are faculty getting stipend?



Other points discussed suggest that the working group towards implementation have an AUC representative. Regarding Portfolio assessment – how is knowledge captured? How are credits recognized? This led to a discussion on the process vs the approval of portfolios.

AUC Leader noted that with a curricular process in place, the portfolio approval process is assessed by the CAO, yet why would the CAO assess each one of the portfolios. Dr. Cook added this is similar to the curriculum committee process. The conversation on policy, practices, and implementation is ongoing. Dr. Cook spoke about the nuances of all the components and considerations – what is the student is transferring. Another part of the delegation is the registrar's office.

Dr. Cook suggested that instead of rescinding, we could table this proposal. – it contains all of the parts. As a reference, AUC noted that other colleges do the course to course, yet how do other colleges do the administrative piece – it might be through the Registrar's office. MCCC Leader Renae Gorman – asked, is it similar to a course equivalency. Dr. Cook commented that prior learning assessment is very different. Chris Thuot commented that the proposed policy has some value, however, 50% is not allowed by NECHE, it has to go down (page 5, under Credit limitation).

With discussions in mind and in the need of further clarification regarding system/process, and further look into NECHE standards, all parts agreed to table the proposal.

III. Other

Next Steps

- Presidential action on Recommendations/discussed as needed
- Please be advised that recommendations to the SGC are welcome at any time, and will be accommodated, including potentially adding SGC meetings, as necessary: President@stcc.edu
- **Next Meeting: TBD/Fall Semester**

About the process – what needs to happen between now and the next meeting? VP Thuot suggested taking this back to Academic Standing planning – reintroduce to the committee if they want to resubmit with additions. Most likely in September. In the meantime, VP Thuot can meet with Prof. Pease to discuss part 2.

As a reminder, NECHE updated/report requested specific to Governance as well as Facilities/Infrastructure due on August 15, 2024 – a draft report for comment will be shared with campus, and Vice President Thuot will be seeking feedback directly from Chairs/Coordinators.

Meeting ended at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nanette Flores