Degrees & Certificates Committee

A Standing Committee of the Education Advisory Council

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 | 2pm to 4pm Virtual
Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Committee – Voting Members					
✓	Jon Briggs		Farin Hajarizadeh	✓	Julianne Sandlin
✓	Kristin Bryant	✓	Jaime Heberlein	✓	Irene Seto
✓	Laurie Chadwick		Janeen Hull	✓	Stacie Williams (Chair)
✓	Beth Fitzgerald	✓	Elizabeth McGlasson		
✓	Ben Foster		Don Ritchie		
✓	Amanda Gallo	✓	Adrian Rodriguez		
Committee Support – Non-Voting Members					
✓	Anne Haberkern	✓	Jessica Morfin	✓	Carmen Seto
✓	Stacey Holland	✓	Nikki Patterson		Susan Watson
Guests					
Priscilla Lundberg					

<u>Notes</u>: **Directions for Accessing CourseLeaf:** Log into MyPCC, go to the Faculty tab, select the "Electronic Approval Queue" link under the Faculty Tools menu, and then select "Degrees and Certificates Committee Chair" in the drop-down menu.

Business Items

Credential	Recommend	Recommend w/ amendments	Postpone
1. None *– Represented by*			

Standing Policies			
None			

Consent Agenda

Credential	SAC
ELECTV-ARCH01: Architectural Degree Electives	ARCH (Architectural Design & Drafting)
Inactivation	
None	
Focus Awards	
None	

Business Items

Credential

- None

Standing Policies

- None

Consent Agenda

Credential – *Approved*

ELECTV-ARCH01: Architectural Degree Electives

Inactivation

- None

Focus Awards

- None

Reports

EAC: Stacie Williams

- No report

APS: Elizabeth McGlasson
- No report

TLCI: Anne Haberkern
- No report

Discussion

Degree Requirements: Brief Overview From February Meeting

Degree Requirements Review Process
- PCC does not have a process to review degree requirements.
- Historically, there has been a lack of documentation on the rationales for specific requirements.
- What should standard review criteria look like?
  - Every *x* number of years make a comprehensive review of all degree requirements
  - PCC could try to align its process with process of all the OPUs.
    (In the last 10 years, the OPUs have made at least one change (if not more) to their degree requirements.)
  - Because students often change degrees while still at PCC, understanding how changes to one degree path impact another degree paths should be essential – a holistic, student-centered review process.
- The DAC seems like the right place for such a process. The committee ought to be mindful of not adding additional responsibilities onto SACs and disciplines.

Degree Requirements and Structure Evaluation
- There has been no official process to review degree requirements for the past 20 years, so the degrees share comprehensive requirements and non-comprehensive requirements. However, the rationale behind these shared requirements across degrees is not clear.
- Institutions have an understanding of what each degree is meant to be used for, but this might be different from what students are trying to accomplish. Degree requirements may also add barriers for students, so updated degree structures will be beneficial for students (especially students who self-advise).
- While all of our degrees have some type of state guidelines to adhere to, the AAOT degree requirements are completely determined by the state and we cannot add any additional requirements.
- Degrees/Certificates Awarded (Document)
  - Looking at this type of data can help us learn more about potential barriers and help us understand what changes need to be made for each degree.
  - If students aren't pursuing certain degrees, we can examine why there is a low award percentage.

- - As we continue this work, it's important to consider the impact of our decisions.
- There are two tension points for us to consider: Requirements creating barriers versus basic competencies as a reflection of PCC's values which leads to requirements.
    - - We don't want to create unnecessary barriers, but it's also important for us to consider what requirements uphold institutional values.
    - - Values do change over time, which reinforces the importance of periodic review.
- Once we're past this early stage of discussion and brainstorming, we'll want to engage other core groups.
- Committee members split into two breakout rooms to brainstorm ideas and discuss how to structure our meetings going forward.
- At a later point, we will also want to sketch out mile points for goals, feedback, and revisions. By the April or May meeting, it will be helpful to have a clear understanding of the values and principles that will guide our work.